

CONTROVERSIAL DOCUMENTS FROM THE SECRET CENSORED ARCHIVES OF THE FBI, CIA AND MORE

\$4.98

OSWALD

THE SECRET FILES

**DID OSWALD
SHOOT KENNEDY?
TRUMPED UP EVIDENCE
FAMOUS FAKE PHOTOS**

**DISSENT AMONG FBI
INVESTIGATORS
CONSPIRACY THEORIES
REVEALED
OSWALD'S
PRIVATE LETTERS**





UPI/Bettma

John Kennedy, with his wife Jacqueline Kennedy and Governor John Connally before the assassination.

OSWALD: The Secret Files

*Controversial Documents from the Secret Censored Archives
of the FBI, CIA and more*

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OSWALD: The Secret Files

WHO WAS LEE HARVEY OSWALD?

No other figure in recent American history presents us with more of an enigma than Lee Harvey Oswald. And given his untimely death, the riddle of his character will likely never be solved.

The following pages are documents from the FBI's secret files on Oswald now available under the Freedom of Information Act, and from recently released CIA files. The picture they paint, if any, is contradictory and inconclusive. They shed light on a man who is by turn represented as naive and cunning, secretive and loquacious, intelligent and bumbling.

Testimony from friends and relatives is all over the map. His mother, naturally, stands by her son. His wife, Marina, has at various times called him an ideal husband, at other times a wife-beater. His acquaintances in the armed forces have labeled him as outgoing, friendly and taciturn. Some have called him a subversive, others discounted this theory in its entirety.

Documentation aside, the very events of Lee Harvey Oswald's life, the undisputed ones that is, paint a similar picture. Born on October 18, 1939, in New Orleans, Oswald's early life was marked by mild poverty. Though he was thought to be quite intelligent, his grades were poor, as he chose to skip school frequently.

Wanting to emulate his older brother, he joined the Marines where his tour of duty

included a stint in Japan and access to information about the U2 spy plane. His record appears good, and he is often remembered as quiet and bookish. However, his military career appears to be marred by two incidents, an argument with another military man and possession of an illegal weapon.

The main event in Oswald's life, up to the assassination, was his "defection" to what was then the Soviet Union. The word is in quotes because some believe he was working as a CIA operative. He was shipped to Minsk to work in a radio factory, but his overall sojourn in the U.S.S.R. would not be a long one.

What he did accomplish there was to meet and marry Marina Oswald. The couple, for variously ascribed reasons, decided to leave for an easier life in the West. Surprisingly, they were repatriated with relative ease. It was typically quite difficult for Soviet citizens to emigrate, or for American defectors to be accepted back (and given a resettlement allowance, to boot.)

Once resettled in New Orleans, the next dubious happenstance in Oswald's activities was his arrest over a disturbance involving the distribution of pamphlets for the so-called "Fair Play for Cuba Committee." Whether he was an ardent member or actually working for a right wing anti-Castro faction remains unanswered. In any event, he was given a 20-day suspended sentence.

In the autumn before the assassination of

John Kennedy, Oswald did or did not make a trip to Mexico City, for purposes unknown. There is some evidence that while he was there he contacted the Soviet Embassy, but other evidence disputes his presence in that country.

Finally, Oswald has also been implicated in the attempted assassination of a Major General Edwin A. Walker, a sort-of warmup to the Kennedy killing.

TOO MANY THEORIES

By now most everyone with even a passing acquaintance with the events of that fateful day in Dallas has also heard the subsequent conflicting theories. Just some of these are:

- Oswald acted alone, firing with a rifle from the Texas Book Depository. (This

part of a plot to shoot Kennedy by the Mafia, the CIA, Fidel Castro, anti-Castro rightists, the Pentagon, the right wing, the left wing, the Soviet Union, Communist China, and other and various factions here and abroad.

The documentation for each of the major theories is voluminous. In fact, the sheer amount of paper generated by the various government agencies is thought by some to be part of a plot: to obfuscate the details of the assassination by generating such a plethora of documentation that no one can get to the bottom of it. Each piece of evidence leads to new trails, into a maze of assassination arcana that is impenetrable as a jungle. The FBI files available for examination generated by its Dallas Bureau alone runs at around 60,000 pages. And these are only the tip of the iceberg, as there are countless other documents that remain classified. And not just by the FBI but the CIA, NSA, Naval Intelligence, and a host of other agencies.

Interestingly, even many of the internal documents about Lee Harvey Oswald show unexplainable discrepancies. Even essentially basic information is thrown into doubt. For example, there is disagreement about Oswald's height. Was it five-nine or five eleven? Was there a discrepancy in reports of his height because an imposter was using his name in Mexico?

You can see how one single aberration of fact can lead down paths to many possibilities.

Finally, it's been suggested by some that much of the paper-trail evidence generated by the FBI and other federal agencies consists of forgeries, planted in the files after the fact.

The bottom line is we'll probably never more than scrape the surface about Lee Harvey Oswald's character, personality, true motives, or even political beliefs. But maybe these pages will reveal a complex individual about whom many questions remain unanswered.

The bottom line is we'll probably never more than scrape the surface about Lee Harvey Oswald's character, personality, true motives, or even political beliefs.

is the basic conclusion of the Warren Commission.)

- Though Oswald shot Kennedy, other assassins also shot him from a nearby grassy knoll.
- Oswald did not shoot John Kennedy; he was in the basement getting a Coke.
- Oswald, acting alone or with others, was

The Military Years

While Lee Harvey Oswald's years in the United States Marine Corps were relatively uneventful, certain events took place that would later have reverberations and repercussions in relation to the assassination of John Kennedy.

Oswald enlisted in the USMC on October 24, 1956, six days after his seventeenth birthday.

The document detailing his service training record (165-32-30) contains one seemingly innocuous but perhaps portentous piece of information. According to the summary of Oswald's places of assignment, on February 25, 1959, he was "tested in the Rusina (sic) language."

The U.S. Marine Corps does not test its soldiers in the Russian language. Why was Oswald tested? In fact, was he tested at all, or was this comment an untruth later tagged into the document? If he was tested, what could be the purpose? If he was not, was the comment placed into Oswald's record to buttress arguments that he was pro-Soviet Union? On examination, neither argument makes sense. Testing in Russian would be most appropriate if he were to eventually work as an intelligence operative in that country.

THE DISCHARGE

Things did not go smoothly for Oswald in the waning years of his military career. In April, 1958, he received a summary court-martial for bringing onto base a privately owned, unregistered weapon.

In June of that year, he received another court-martial for provoking a staff Non-Commissioned Officer at the Bluebird Cafe, in Yamato, Japan. (According to the report: "LEE HARVEY OSWALD walked up to

where R. [Tech Sergeant Rodriguez] was sitting and spilled a drink on him. R. got up and shoved LEE HARVEY OSWALD. LEE HARVEY OSWALD invited R. outside to fight and calling him 'yellow.' No fist-cuffs actually took place."

In July of 1960, according to the aforementioned summary, he was recommended for discharge because of his request to be given citizenship in the Soviet Union. Oswald would later plead that his dishonorable discharge was blatantly unfair. He blamed it on political considerations and wrote many impassioned letters to protest his innocence.

As a matter of fact, one conspiracy theory posits that Oswald was not intending to hit John Kennedy at all, but was aiming for Governor John Connally, who Oswald mistakenly believed had once had a hand in denying reconsideration of Oswald's discharge.

Many of the interviews of Oswald's acquaintances in the military probed for his character and opinions, and generally belie his Marxist sympathies. His supposedly closest friend, Nelson Delgado, testified to the Warren Commission that Oswald "never said any subversive things... He was mostly a thinker, a reader... He would discuss his ideas but not anything against our government or—nothing Socialist..."

His first lieutenant at El Toro, John Donovan, said, "I never heard him in any way, shape or form confess that he was a Communist, or that he ever thought about being a Communist." (Seven other soldiers who served with Oswald backed up this assertion.)

In fact, only one person from his Marine Corps years testified to his leftist leanings, a Kerry Thornley, who had not lived in the same part of the base as Oswald.

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Summary - Dates - Places of Assignment - USMC

165-32-30

LEE HARVEY OSWALD, born 10-18-39 at New Orleans, Louisiana, enlisted in USMC upon turning 17 on 10-24-56. He enlisted at Dallas. His home was in Fort Worth. It was a 3 year enlistment.

10-25-56 - 1-18-57 - boot training - San Diego
1-20-57 - 3-18-57 - Inf. Trng Regt - Camp Pendleton, Calif.
3-18-57 - 5-4-57 - Marine Air Depot, Jacksonville, Fla.
5-4-57 - 7-9-57 - CASCO, HQBN, HQMC, (?) Biloxi, Miss.
7-9-57 - 9-12-57 - El Toro, Calif.
9-12-57 - 10-5-58 - MACS-1, MAG-11, 1st MAW, FMF, c/o FPO SF, Calif.
10-6-58 - 12-22-58 - Sub. Unit 1, H & MS 11, MAG 11, 1st MAW.
12-22-58 - 9-4-59 - MACS-9, MNHG, 3rd MAW, Santa Ana, Calif.
9-4-59 - 9-11-59 - H & HS MCAS, El Toro, Santa Ana, Calif.
9-11-59 - Released from active duty.
9-12-59 - 9-13-60 - Hg MARTC, NAS, Glenview, Ill. (Inactive Reserve)

LEE HARVEY OSWALD had firing record: M1, BAR, .45 pistol, Riot Gun.

LEE HARVEY OSWALD attended two six-week schools: at Jacksonville, Fla and at Kessler AFB in 1957.

On 2-25-59 he was tested in Russian language.

On 4-11-58 he received summary court-martial for having in his possession a privately - owned weapon that was not registered.

On 6-27-58 he received summary court-martial for wrongfully using provoking words to a Staff Non-Commission Officer at the Bluebird Cafe, Yamato, Japan.

In 7-60 he was recommended for discharge (Reserves) by reason of unfitness because he had requested he be given citizenship in Russia. On 9-13-60 he received undesirable discharge and was not recommended for reenlistment.

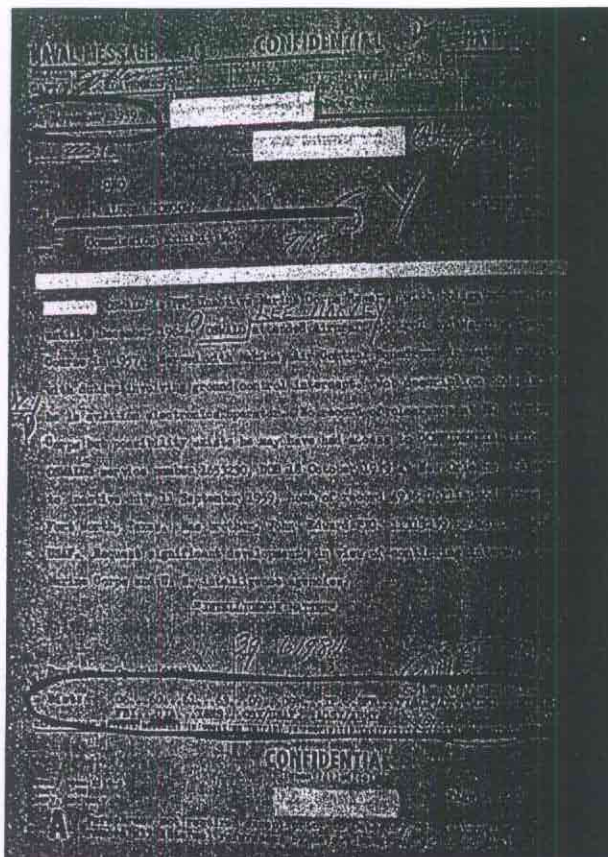
While in USMC LEE HARVEY OSWALD took leave as follows:

2-27-57 - 3-13-57 - from Camp Pendleton, Calif. 15 days
6-20-57 - 7-4-57 - CASCO, HQBN, HQMC 15 days
11-19-58 - 12-18-58 - Sub. Unit 1, H & MS 11, MAG 11,
1st MAW. 30 days
8-21-57 - USS BEXAR - left San Diego, Calif. 8-22-57 - arrived
and disembarked at Yokosuka, Japan 9-12-57.
11-2-58 - 11-15-58 - HSNS Barrett - Japan - San Francisco

In June - July 1958 LEE HARVEY OSWALD was courtmartialed as result of fight he had in Japan with Tech. Sgt. Rodriguez. This happened in a cafe. LEE HARVEY OSWALD walked up to where R. was sitting and spilled a drink on him R. got up and shoved LEE HARVEY OSWALD. LEE HARVEY OSWALD invited R. outside to fight and calling him "yellow." No fist-cuffs actually took place.

Oswald may have been exposed to sensitive information as an aviation electronics operator. "Job description code indicates he is an aviation electronics operator. No record of clearance at HQ... possibility exists he may have had access to CONFIDENTIAL info."

**"Possibility exists
he may have
had access to
CONFIDENTIAL info."**



Interview with U2 pilot F. Gary Powers, including what he knew about Oswald. The possibility is broached that the soldier referred to as being shot by Oswald on the previous page was guarding the U2 hangar.

In January, 1958 POWERS rejoined the squadron which included OSWALD at Caba Point in the Philippines and according to POWERS it was here that MARINE B. SHEROEN was shot while on guard duty. POWERS stated that actually from firsthand information he knows nothing of this but was advised from other individuals that there was some question concerning the shooting of SHEROEN. He recalls that Marines on guard duty utilized a pump shotgun and were given three shells for the gun. The instructions were that the chamber of the gun was to be kept empty until necessary. He stated that it was his understanding that Marine SHEROEN was shot through the left side of the chest, the bullet piercing the body and coming out on the opposite side. He also recalled that the shotgun's gun was kept in an airplane hangar back behind the plane, the nature of which he did not know at that time, but which he now knows to be a B-2. He stated that he did not know whether Marine SHEROEN was assigned the specific duty of guarding the gun which housed the B-2 and he is not aware as to the circumstances surrounding SHEROEN's death, learning this only from hearsay the following day.

POWERS recalled that OSWALD and the agent were then put aboard a Philippine ship en route to Comodoro where they

Defection & Return

One of the strangest twists in Lee Harvey Oswald's life was his defection to and return from the Soviet Union.

Though it is incontrovertible that he did indeed go there, his motives are vague, to say the least. There is some evidence that Oswald had a heart-felt desire to defect, that he was fed up with life in the United States, and that he entertained the idea of the Soviet Union as some sort of Marxist utopia.

However, all this is skewed if one subscribes to the theory of Oswald as a CIA operative.

According to testimony before the House Select Committee on Assassinations, a former CIA officer said Oswald was sent to the U.S.S.R. with "the express purpose of a double agent assignment."

It is also interesting to note that, once he changed his mind, he had an extremely easy time returning, and even received money on re-arrival to help him get on his feet. This was unusual in that the government typically does not give such a loan to returnees unless they've demonstrated their loyalty to the United States "beyond question." Nonetheless, he received \$436.

The State Department is in no way bound to repatriate defectors, yet not only did it allow him to return, it easily granted permission for his wife to come back, as well. Oswald didn't even encounter difficulty receiving a new American passport.

Typically, the U.S. government has a warning system for passport requests from people defecting to another country, particularly the Soviet Union.

Even the chronology of events leading to his departure from the U.S. and arrival in

the Soviet Union is confusing. Given the amount of research and digging by the government into Oswald's movements, this is surprising.

The unfolding of his movements upon defection illustrate the complexity of ever unraveling the truth about Lee Harvey Oswald.

He left by boat, having received his ticket from Clay Shaw, who was later to be indicted by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison for his part in the plot to kill Kennedy. After arriving in England, he was said to have gone to Helsinki by air, arriving on October 9, according to the Warren Commission. However, Oswald's passport indicates he didn't really leave Great Britain until October 10th.

In any event, Oswald did finally arrive in Moscow from Finland on October 16, 1959, and underwent interrogation during which he purportedly gave up his passport and stated his new allegiance.

The next year, Oswald was sent to Minsk, where he worked in a radio factory. After nearly a year and a half, he had his fill of the place, and asked to return at the American Embassy. Before he received a response, however, he met his future wife, Marina Prusakova, whose uncle (or some say father) was said to be a colonel in the U.S.S.R.'s intelligence service. They were married two months later.

Oswald was to return unhindered to the United States in June 1962, where he was met by an anti-communist operation with intelligence connections. He was never prosecuted for his defection. In October, Lee Harvey Oswald moved to Dallas. The rest is history.

INDEX-11

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

TO : Embassy Moscow
FROM : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.
REF : Ourtel 1204, October 21, 1959

November 2, 1959

1461849

CLASSIFICATION	DEPT.
OTHER	OTHER

CITIZENSHIP: Lee Harvey Oswald

Mr. Lee Harvey OSWALD, an American citizen, appeared at this Embassy October 21, 1959 and claimed to Second Secretary Richard E. Snyder that he wishes to renounce his American citizenship and that he had applied to become a citizen of the Soviet Union. He presented to the interviewing officer his passport and the following signed, undated, handwritten statement, the original of which is retained by the Embassy (misspellings are as in original):

"I Lee Harvey (cq) Oswald do hereby request that my present citizenship in the United States of America, be revoked

"I have entered the Soviet Union for the express purpose of applying for citizenship in the Soviet Union, through the means of naturalization.

"My request for citizenship is now pending before the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

"I take these steps for political reasons. My request for the revoking of my American citizenship is made only after the longest and most serious considerations.

1AP
S 612
C 12

"I affirm that my allegiance is to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

s/ Lee H. Oswald

Oswald is the bearer of Passport No. 1700213, issued September 10, 1959 (retained at the Embassy). The passport shows that he was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on October 18, 1939, and gives his occupation as "shipping export agent". Oswald gave his last address in the United States as that of his mother at 1936 Collinwood Street, Fort Worth, Texas. A telegram subsequently received at the Embassy for him indicates that a brother, Robert L. Oswald, resides at 7313 Tavenport, Fort Worth, Texas. He stated that he was discharged from the U. S. Marine Corps on September 11, 1957. Oswald's father was corporal. Oswald evidently applied for his passport to the Agency at San Francisco while still in service. He stated that he had contacted the Agency which he took for about two years before his discharge. He stated that he left the United States through New Orleans with the intent of traveling to the Soviet Union through Northern Europe. He states that he first applied for a Soviet tourist visa in Leningrad on October 24,

Richard E. Snyder

FOR ORIGINAL

5/23/60

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-353496)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (105-6103)

SUBJECT: FUNDS TRANSMITTED TO RESIDENTS OF RUSSIA IS-R

M 8-1

Re report of SA JOHN W. FAIR, Dallas, 5/12/60.

Interview of Mrs. MARGUERITE C. OSWALD reveals that her son, LEE HARVEY OSWALD had gone to Moscow, Russia, had renounced his US citizenship and had apparently sought Soviet citizenship. She recently received a letter addressed to her son from the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland indicating that LEE OSWALD was expected at the college on 4/20/60. She stated that LEE OSWALD had taken his birth certificate with him when he left home. The fact that she had sent three letters to her son in Moscow since 1/22/60, which were returned undelivered, has caused her to fear for his safety.

There appears to be a possibility of locating LEE OSWALD outside the USSR at the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland. Furthermore, since OSWALD had his birth certificate in his possession, another individual may have assumed his identity.

The info furnished by Mrs. OSWALD may be of interest to the US State Department and it is suggested for the consideration of the Bureau, that a copy of her interview be furnished to the State Department for any action they deem appropriate.

3 - Bureau (100-353496) (RM)
 1 - Dallas (105-970) (RM)
 1 - New York (105-6103)

105-82555 - UNREC
 NOT RECORDED
 16 JUN 4 1960

MPC:jf
 (6) F258
 59 JUN 10 1960

OPPOSITE:

This CIA document sums up the facts of Oswald's defection. In the second paragraph Oswald requests that his U.S. citizenship be revoked. In the fourth, he states that he has applied for Soviet citizenship. "I take these steps for political reasons," he's quoted as stating. "I affirm that my allegiance is to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics." He gives his principal reason for leaving as such: "I am a Marxist."

TOP:

FBI memo outlines Oswald's mother's fears for his safety in the U.S.S.R. "The fact that she had sent three letters to her son which were returned undelivered, has caused her to fear for his safety." Also, note that there was some belief that he might in fact have been in Switzerland.

BOTTOM:

First mention of the possibility of Oswald being an intelligence operative working in the Soviet Union. The second paragraph states: "Mrs. Oswald was assured that there was no evidence to suggest that her son had gone to the Soviet Union as an 'agent', and that she should dismiss any such idea." Also, "Mrs. Oswald conceded that there was a good possibility that her son was acting in full knowledge of what he was doing and preferred the Soviet way of life."

201-289248

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
 (No Direct Copies and Replies)

201-289248
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

DATE: January 26, 1961

SUBJECT: ✓ Lee Oswald 289248

PARTICIPANTS: Mrs. Oswald
 PPT - Mr. Edward J. Hickey
 SOI - Mr. Dennis W. Stanfield
 SOV - D. E. Boster

COPIES TO: PPT
 SOI
 H
 DNR-5
 SOV - (5) (2cc's)
 Ambassador Moscow

17

For BACKGROUND
 OCS prepared for use by CIA

Mrs. Oswald came in to discuss the situation with regard to her son, Lee Oswald, who had gone to the Soviet Union and attempted to renounce his citizenship. Mrs. Oswald said she had come to Washington to see that further could be done to help her son, indicating that she did not feel that the Department had done as much as it should in his case. She also said she thought there was some possibility that her son had in fact gone to the Soviet Union as a US secret agent, and if this were true she wished the appropriate authorities to know that she was destitute and should receive some compensation.

Mrs. Oswald was assured that there was no evidence to suggest that her son had gone to the Soviet Union as an "agent", and that she should dismiss any such idea. With respect to her son's citizenship status, Mr. Hickey explained that he had not yet taken the necessary steps in order legally to renounce his citizenship. At the same time, he did not know whether he had taken any action which would deprive him of his American citizenship under our laws. Mrs. Oswald conceded that there was a good possibility that her son was acting in full knowledge of what he was doing and preferred the Soviet way of life. If this were the case, she would respect his right to do so.

It was agreed that the Department would send a new instruction to the Embassy at Moscow asking that the Soviet Foreign Ministry be informed that Mrs. Oswald had not heard from her son in several months and was very anxious to have word from him.

Mrs. Oswald said that her address at the present time was Box 305, Boyd, Texas.

201-289248

On April 28, 1960, Mrs. MARGUERITE C. OSWALD, who was then employed at Methodist Orphans Home, 1111 Herring Avenue, Waco, Texas, volunteered the following information:

Mrs. OSWALD stated that she has been very much upset and uneasy concerning her son, LEE HARVEY OSWALD, since she learned during the Fall of 1959, with much to her surprise that he had gone to Moscow, Russia, where he had renounced his United States citizenship and had apparently sought Soviet citizenship. She stated that following his discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps in September, 1959, he visited her for a few days in Fort Worth and left town stating that he was going to New Orleans, Louisiana, to resume his employment with an export-import company at New Orleans. She stated that subject had engaged in export-import employment for a brief period of time prior to his enlistment in the U. S. Marine Corps. Mrs. OSWALD also stated that subject had mentioned something about his desire to travel and said something also about the fact that he might go to Cuba.

Mrs. OSWALD stated that shortly after subject arrived in New Orleans, she received the following letter postmarked at New Orleans, Louisiana, from subject:

"Dear mother:

"Well I have booked passage on a ship to Europe. I would of had to sooner or later, and I think its best that I do now. Just remember above all else that my values are very different from Roberts or yours.

"It is difficult to tell you how I feel. Just remember this is what I must do. I did not tell you about my plans because you could hardly be expected to understand. Lee."

Mrs. OSWALD stated that she was very much sbocked and surprised later to learn that he had gone to Moscow, Russia. She stated that she had no idea as to how he arrived there but that she does know that he had saved up about \$1600 from his services in the U. S. Marine Corps. She stated that he did not previously discuss with her any intention to go to Moscow, Russia. She also stated that he had never sbown any procliviti for the ideologies of communism. She stted that he had never expressed any sympathy for Russia or the communist system. She stated that subject was always a studious type of individual an that he read books that were considered "deep." Mrs. OSWALD st that she would not have been surprised to have heard that subje had gone to, "say, South America or Cuba, but that it had never entered her mind that he might go to Russia or that he might t

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
211-1112-020-11
Lee Harvey / 11-11-61

AIR MACH
Priority

FOREIGN SERVICE DISPATCH

FROM : Ambassador ID5001
TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, May 26, 1961
REF : Department's A-173, April 13, 1961; Embassy's D-659, March 21, 1961, same subject. 44-15881

ACTION	REC'D	DATE	BY
6/3	6/3		

SUBJECT: CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORTS: Lee Harvey Oswald

The Embassy received on May 25, 1961 an undated letter from Lee Harvey Oswald postmarked Minsk, May 16, 1961, in which he states in part that he is asking "full guarantees that I shall not, under any circumstances, be persecuted for any act pertaining to this case" should he return to the United States, that if this "condition" cannot be met he will "endeavor to use relatives in the United States to see about getting something done in Washington." According to the letter, Oswald is married to a Russian woman who would want to accompany him to the United States. The text of the letter is contained in Enclosure 1.

In view of the possibility that the Department may receive further inquiries from Oswald's mother or from other persons in his behalf concerning his case, the Embassy would be glad to have the Department's comments before replying to Oswald. The Embassy proposes to reply to Oswald, drawing upon the language of the third paragraph of the Department's A-173, that should he be found not to have lost American citizenship, he would be entitled to return to the United States under the laws and regulations applicable to all American citizens and that the Embassy is not in a position to advise him whether in the event of his return he may be subject to prosecution for possible offenses committed in violation of the laws of the United States or of any of the States. The Embassy's reply would also reiterate that the final determination of Oswald's claim to American citizenship could only be made on the basis of a personal interview and that he is free to visit the Embassy whenever he desires. The reply would include the Embassy's prepared information sheets explaining the requirements and procedures pertaining to his wife's intended immigration. Oswald would also be informed of the necessity for him and his wife to apply to the Soviet authorities for permission to leave the Soviet Union and would be invited to inform the Embassy if he had done so.

The reference in Oswald's letter to his present Soviet internal passport in which he is apparently designated as "without citizenship" is, if accurate, prima facie indication that the Soviet government does not regard him as possessing Soviet citizenship. It would appear on this basis that Oswald has not yet expatriated himself under Section 319(a)(1) of the Immigration and

B.G. 2
A-100k
C-1R
1-TSD
1-oc/56
1-SS

RUSNYDER/vdb
REPRODES

ACTION COPY - DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OPPOSITE:

More on Marguerite Oswald's fears for her son Lee. Note especially the content of the transcript of his letter to his mother, especially the line "Just remember this is what I must do... My values are very different from yours."

TOP:

Though renouncing his citizenship, Oswald made constant overtures to smooth the way for his eventual return to the U.S. In this Foreign Service Dispatch Oswald asks "full guarantees that I shall not, under any circumstances, be persecuted for any act pertaining to this case." The Embassy replied that it was "not in a position to advise him" on the subject. Interesting to note is that while Oswald asked for Soviet citizenship, he apparently didn't get it. The last paragraph says his internal passport designates him as without citizenship. The Embassy also refused to forward him an American passport by mail.

BOTTOM:

Lee Harvey Oswald's Cuban passport document. Much has been made of the Oswald/Cuba connection. While in the Soviet Union, Oswald was said to have been surprised at the lack of interest in or knowledge of Cuban affairs about which he was often said to be quite passionate.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (When filled in)

PRECEDENCE ACTION ROUTINE	RELEASED BY <i>[Signature]</i>	DRAFTED BY P. C. LeSOURD, LTJG USNR	PHONE NO. 41856
INFO ROUTINE		OP-921E2	

R 031309Z

1962 MAR 3 13

RECEIVED FROM
MAR 9 1962
[Handwritten initials]

FM DNI
TO ALUSNA, MOSCOW
INFO CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR REP, GERMANY
ALUSNA BONN
ALUSNA HELSINKI

[Handwritten signature]

CONFIDENTIAL

OSWALD, Lee Harvey, 1653230, ex-PFC, USMCR

A. ALUSNA, MOSCOW Foreign Service Despatch No. 234 of 2 Nov 1959, Same Subj, NOTAL

1. Reference (A) indicated that on 31 October 1959 OSWALD visited the U. S. Embassy, Moscow, where he signed a handwritten statement requesting that his U.S. citizenship be revoked, stated he had applied for Soviet citizenship, and affirmed his allegiance to the USSR. He allegedly told Embassy he had advised unnamed Soviet Officials that as a former Marine radar operator, he would make available to them information about his Marine Corps specialty when he became a Soviet citizen.

2. By personal letter to Secretary of the Navy CONNALLY dated 30 January 1961, received in February 1962, OSWALD advised he was preparing to return to the USA and wished to have rectified the "gross injustice" done to him by the USMC in giving him a "belated dishonourable discharge." He stated he had received an honorable discharge after three years service on September 11, 1959. In this letter, OSWALD asserted he was still a U.S. citizen and alleged he had gone to the Soviet Union to reside only for a "short time." Records of the Office of Naval Intelligence do not indicate what OSWALD's citizenship is.

Copy to *[Handwritten]*
by routing slip for
 info action
date *[Handwritten]*
by *[Handwritten]*

[Handwritten signature]
5-
921E
105-82555

Drafter: Op-921E
Dist: SECNAV...UNDERSECKAV...OO...09...09B...007...01...CMC
JAG...NAVAIDE...STATE...FBI...CIA...I&NS...FLAG PLOT
BFR...IP

105-82555 - UNREC
NOT RECORDED

5 1 MAR 21 1962

22 MAR 20 1962

CIRCUIT NO. (COMM)	PAGE OF PAGES	TOR/TOR	CONTROL NO. (COMM)	DTG (COMM)
	1 17:21			MAR 62

RECEIVING TELEGRAM Department of State 15

59-52
Action
SCS

Classification Control: 5464
Rec'd: November 9, 1959
4:07 p.m.

FROM: Moscow

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1358, November 9, 6 p.m.

SENT PRIORITY TOKYO 10, REPEATED INFORMATION DEPARTMENT 1358.

Tokyo's 23 sent Department 1448.

Consular officer attempted personal delivery of message from Pic to Oswald today, but unable make contact at hotel. Message being sent registered mail.

RMR For Pic's information previous message from brother Robert Oswald also had to be sent registered mail. Lee Oswald seems determined carry out purpose of seeking Soviet citizenship and renouncing American citizenship, but so far as known Soviet citizenship not granted and formal renunciation not yet made at this office. Department has instructed Embassy may not withhold right renunciation under Section 1999 revised statutes. Care has been and will be taken to be sure he has no doubts should he appear to make formal renunciation.

He staying at room 233 Metropole Hotel, Moscow. Brother Robert attempted contact him by phone, but result not known.

THOMPSON

AAL:KK-5

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RECEIVING TELEGRAM Department of State 15

34-H

Classification Control: 4959
Rec'd: November 9, 1959
3:20 a.m.

FROM: Tokyo

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1448, November 9, 4 p.m.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 1448, REPEATED INFORMATION PRIORITY MOSCOW 23, CINCPAC, COMUS/JAPAN UNNUMBERED

USAF Staff Sergeant John E. Pic Zuchikawa Air Base, called at Embassy November 6, concerning news reports that his half-brother, Lee Harvey Oswald, 20 years old, intends to renounce US citizenship and become Soviet citizen.

According to Moscow AF dispatch in PACIFIC STARS AND STRIPES November 1, Lee Oswald is at Metropole Hotel, Moscow. UPI story datelined Fort Worth, Texas, reports another brother, Robert L. Oswald, has attempted to reach Lee Oswald by cable to Moscow and has also sent telegram to Secretary Herter pleading for assistance in contacting him.

Pic asked that Embassy inform him of any developments about Lee Oswald and requested that Embassy Moscow if possible transmit to his following message: "Please reconsider your intentions. Contact me if possible. Love. (Signed) John".

Request any information this matter which Embassy can pass on to Pic.

CA informed.

MACARTHUR

BB:DGH/3

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OPPOSITE:

Oswald complains about his dishonorable discharge and affirms his allegiance to the U.S.S.R.

TOP:

Lee's brother Robert says Oswald is determined to become a Soviet citizen and to renounce his U.S. citizenship.

BOTTOM:

Oswald's other brother John also wants him to reconsider his defection.

BACKGROUND INFO:

The House Select Committee on Assassinations received testimony that Oswald was culled from the military by the CIA for the purpose of spying in the U.S.S.R. After news of the defection became public, the Marine Corps said its files on Oswald showed no derogatory information. Subsequently, the FBI failed to investigate his defection, saying it was unnecessary. To put all this into perspective, at the time of Oswald's defection, the United States and Soviet Union were embroiled in the height of the Cold War. Therefore, the cavalier attitude of the government about the circumstances of Oswald's Soviet adventure is inexplicable. Unless, of course, as Oswald's mother feared, he was indeed a secret agent of the U.S.

SAC, DALLAS (100-10461)

April 27, 1961

SAC, NEW ORLEANS (100-16601)

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
SM - C

(OO: Dallas)

Re Dallas let 2/28/61.

A review of ONI 8th Naval District Records United States Naval Station, Algiers, Louisiana on April 18, 1961 reflected the following information which may be of assistance in connection with instant investigation.

File on OSWALD reflected an ONI Report by SA JOHN T. COX dated January 27, 1961, File 33-476, captioned JOHN EDWARD PIC (DOB 17, Jan. '32 S Sgt. AF 11313239 USAF Hospital TACHIKOWA, APO 323 Communist Matters). In brief this report reflected information concerning PIC'S reporting to ONI, that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was his half brother. Basis for PIC inquiry was that he had heard that OSWALD had turned in his United States Passport to the American Embassy at Moscow with intentions of removing his American Citizenship. This report containing some background information with respect to OSWALD and his family. There was only one copy of this report available in the file; however, it was noted that a copy had been furnished to Carswell Air Force Base, Fort Worth, Texas.

Also in this file was a photostatic copy of a telegram from the Department of State, Moscow, Russia dated October 31, 1959 at 7:59 AM carrying Control Number 20261 and another number 1304, which stated in part "LEE HARVEY OSWALD unmarried, age 20 PP 17332 issued 9/10/59 appeared at Embassy to renounce his American Citizenship applied in Moscow for Russian Citizenship following entry USSR from Helsinki 10:15. Mother's address and his last address in United States 4936 Callinwood Street, Fort Worth, Texas; Says, I have contemplated last two years. Main reason "American Marxist attitude - arrogant, aggressive; recently discharged Marine Corps. Says, has offered Soviets any information he has acquired as Enlisted Radio Operator." This dispatch was signed FREES and apparently directed to the State Department, Washington, D. C.

The file also disclosed a photostatic copy of a memorandum report dated November 2, 1959 which was signed EDWARD F. FREES Charge d'Affaires, ad iterim, American Embassy. This

RUC

2 Dallas (RM)

1 New Orleans

105-82555-54

ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA DARREL B. CURRIE Office: BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
Date: 11/24/63

Field Office File #: 100-43 Bureau File #:

Title: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 23, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

Character: ASSAULTING A FEDERAL OFFICER

Summary: PRISCILLA MARY POST JOHNSON, free lance journalist, had no information connecting LEE HARVEY OSWALD with assassination of President KENNEDY. JOHNSON interviewed OSWALD in Moscow, USSR, November, 1959. OSWALD complained personnel, American Embassy, Moscow, tried to discourage him from renouncing United States citizenship. OSWALD referred to Russian Government as "My Government". Stated he had become MARXIST at age fifteen; that he had never seen a Communist in his life; that Communism would replace Capitalism and that Russia would surpass the United States materially in twenty years.

- P -

Details:

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

OPPOSITE:

Background from Dallas on Oswald's defection. Note that his attitude is described as arrogant and aggressive, and that he offered information on his knowledge as an enlisted radio operator.

TOP:

Priscilla Johnson conducted the first extensive interview with Oswald in the Soviet Union. Note, "OSWALD complained personnel, American Embassy, Moscow, tried to discourage him. OSWALD referred to Russian Government as 'My Government'. Stated he had become MARXIST at age fifteen... that Communism would replace Capitalism and that Russia would surpass the United States..."

In the article, Oswald is quoted as saying, "Even if I'm accepted, on no account will I go back to the United States." Also, "At the age of 15, after watching the way workers are treated in New York and Negroes in the South," Oswald turned to Marxism. Johnson wrote, "As for officials at the United States Embassy in Moscow, they are torn between their desire to give Lee time to think it over, and their legal obligation to hear his oath renouncing American citizenship if he insists."

BOTTOM:

Memo about Oswald renouncing his citizenship.

CONFIDENTIAL

ADVISORIAL

NOVEMBER 29 1963

2050

ALLUSIA MOSCOW

CHD

CONFIDENTIAL EXHIBIT No. 912 X-75

ATTENTION INVITED TO AGENS MOSCOW DISPATCHES DATED 2 NOVEMBER AND 22 NOVEMBER CONCERNING THE RENUNCIATION OF US CITIZENSHIP AND REQUEST FOR SOVIET CITIZENSHIP BY LEE HARVEY OSWALD FOR EMPLOYMENT AS RADAR OPERATOR IN HARCORPS AND HAS OFFERED TO FURNISH SWIETEK GROUP POSSESSIONS ON US RADAR.

92...FC

06-69-51-43-100-FBI-FLACLOP

ADD: FBI STATE, CIA, DOD, COMMUNICATIONS NATURALIZATION SERVICE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

LIST OF AMERICAN "DEFECTORS"

- 1.) Morris and Mollie BLOCK, living in the USSR, and possibly Communist China, since the fall of 1959.
- 2.) David DuBOIS (aka DUPEBOY), living in Peiping since May 1960, but may have returned to the U.S.
- 3.) Sgt. Joseph DUTKANICZ, U.S. Army, defected to East German Forces about the spring of 1960.
- 4.) Sgt. Ernie F. FLETCHER, U.S. Army, defected to East German Forces in June 1959 and stated that he wished to remain in East Germany at a confrontation held on August 5, 1959 (CINCUSAREUR telegram SX 5307 of 0617442 August).
- 5.) Sgt. (fnu) JONES, U.S. Air Force, defected in mid May 1960 to East German Forces (Air Intelligence Information Report number 1430223 of August 9, 1960.)
- 6.) William MARTIN, NSA employee.
- 7.) Bernon MITCHELL, NSA employee.
- 8.) Lee Harvey OSWALD, tourist.
- 9.) Libero RICCIARDELLI, tourist.
- 10.) Pvt. Vladimir SLOBODA, U.S. Army, defected to East German Forces in the spring of 1960.
- 11.) Robert Edward WEBSTER, tourist, (see New York Times article of October 20, 1959).
- 12.) Bruce Frederick DAVIS, U.S. Army, defected to East German Forces, August 19, 1960 (Embassy Moscow telegram 1032 of October 22, 1960).

CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI DATE: 9/1/61

FROM : SAC, WFO (105-37111) *J*

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R
(OO:DL)

Re WFOlet 5/23/61, under above caption, containing the results of a review of the passport files re OSWALD.

On 8/22/61, the passport file of LEE HARVEY OSWALD was reviewed by SA VINCENT P. DURN and found to contain the following info:

By letter dated May, 1961, to the American Embassy, Moscow, USSR, OSWALD advised he had no intention of returning to the U.S. unless he was given a guarantee that he would not be prosecuted for any act pertaining "to this case." He also indicated he married a Russian girl born in Leningrad and wanted to bring her to the U.S. with him.

On 7/10/61, OSWALD executed an "Application for Renewal of Passport" at the American Embassy in Moscow. His residence at that time was USSR, Ulitsa Kalinina 4, Apt. 24, Minsk. This renewal application indicated that OSWALD was issued U.S. Passport #1733242 on 9/10/59, at Washington, D. C. The subject's renewal application was referred to the State Department for consideration and decision.

On 7/8/61, OSWALD appeared at the American Embassy in Moscow at which time he stated he was employed in the Belorussian Radio and Television factory in Minsk as a metal worker in the research shop. He stated he took no oath or allegiance of any kind to the Soviet Union, nor was he required to sign any paper in connection with his employment. He gave his earnings as 90 rubels a month.

REC-61 105-82555-19
SEP 13 1961
E2 SEP 1 1961

Memo

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555) DATE: 11/20/61

FROM : SAC, DALLAS (100-10461)(C)

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R
OO - Dallas

Re Washington Field letter to Bureau, 9/1/61, and Dallas letter to Bureau, 9/29/61.

Mrs. MARGUERITE C. OSWALD, 1808 Eagle Street, Apartment 3, Vernon, Texas, on 10/3/61, advised SA JARRELL H. DAVIS that about two months or so ago she received from her son, LEE HARVEY OSWALD, a letter in which he advised that he and his wife had been to Moscow to contact the American Embassy to secure a renewal of his passport and permission to return to the United States. She added that in this letter he indicated that the prospects were good for him to be allowed to return to the United States, but he did not know whether his wife would be able to return with him, and he indicated he would not return unless she was allowed to accompany him. She said that she did not receive a letter from him for a period of about six weeks and began to think he might be on his way home, even though he had not told her for sure he was going to come home or the date he might arrive. She advised, however, that about a week before she had received another letter from her son, which made no reference whatsoever to his trip to Moscow or to his returning home, but just merely stated he was OK and contained the usual information.

Mrs. OSWALD further advised she has no further information as to whether or not her son and his wife are going to be allowed to return to the United States and has no idea when they might come when they are allowed to come.

105-82555-19
NOV 23 1961
F. E. [unclear]

OPPOSITE:

Other defectors: It's an interesting list. Four are from the U.S. Army, one from the Air Force, and two are NSA employees. The National Security Agency is one of the most secret intelligence operations in the country. Also note that Oswald is listed as a tourist despite his past affiliation with the U.S.M.C.

TOP:

Despite his previously stated desire to remain in the U.S.S.R., by May of 1961 Oswald was actively pursuing a means to return to the U.S. He was given an American passport without much ado. Also revealed are details about his job in Minsk. "He stated he took no oath or allegiance of any kind... nor was he required to sign any paper..."

BOTTOM:

Oswald and his wife Marina were fishing about his prospects of return to the U.S. At this point everything seemed up in the air. "Mrs. Oswald advised she has no further information as to whether or not her son and his wife are going to be allowed to return... and has no idea when they might come..."

4 12 1960
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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

TYPE IN THIS SPACE

PPT

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : Embassy MOSCOW
TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Department's Instruction 1173, April 13, 1960;
Embassy's D-806, May 26, 1961, et. seq. (11)

50 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	PPT-2	EUR-5 SCS-2 INR-9
	REC'D	OTHER
	7-19	CIA-10

SUBJECT: CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORTS: Lee Harvey Oswald

Lee Harvey OSWALD appeared at the Embassy on July 1 on his own initiative in connection with his desire to return to the United States with his wife.

Oswald executed the enclosed questionnaire pertaining to possible expatriating acts and was questioned at length concerning his activities since entering the Soviet Union. No evidence was revealed of any act on his part which might have crossed loss of his American citizenship. He exhibited Soviet internal "stateless" passport (vid na zhitelstvo dlya libna bez grazhdanstva) No. 34179 issued by the Moscow city government on January 18, 1960, which is prima facie evidence that he is regarded by the Soviet authorities as not possessing Soviet citizenship. Oswald stated that despite the wording of the statement which he handed to the Embassy on October 31, 1959 (Embassy despatch 254, November 2, 1959), he never in fact actually applied for Soviet citizenship. His application at that time was for permission to remain in the Soviet Union and for a temporary extension of his tourist visa pending the outcome of his request. This application, according to Oswald, contained no reference to Soviet citizenship, nor did he subsequently make any application for Soviet citizenship. The application was addressed by him to the USSR Supreme Soviet and was placed in the mail box of the Metropol Hotel. It appeared, however, to have been delivered to the central office of the Moscow OVR and apparently was the basis of a notification to him by that office three days later of permission to remain in the Soviet Union. There was subsequently issued his present "stateless" internal passport.

Oswald stated that he has been employed since January 13, 1960, in the Belorussian Radio and TV Factory in Minsk, where he works as a metal worker in the research shop. He stated that he took no oath or affirmation or allegiance of any kind nor was he required to sign any kind of papers in connection with his employment. He gave his earnings as 90 rubles per month. He stated that he is not a member of the factory trade union organization, never having been asked to join.

Oswald stated that he had never been called upon to make any statements for radio or press or to address audiences since his arrival in the Soviet Union and that he has made no statements at any time of any exploitable nature concerning his original decision to reside in the Soviet Union. He recalled that he had

RESnyder/vdb
REPORTER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ACTION COPY - DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/it files with an endorsement of action taken.

AIR POUCH *Dissemination* **FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY**
FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH *PPT*

FROM: Embassy MOSCOW *317*
 TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON *October 12, 1961*
 REF: Department's ON of August 18, 1961 *255-2*

Mr. Tolson																				
Mr. Boardman																				
Mr. Nichols																				
Mr. Belmont																				
Mr. Mohr																				
Mr. Casper																				
Mr. Callahan																				
Mr. Conrad																				
Mr. DeLoach																				
Mr. Evans																				
Mr. Gale																				
Mr. Rosen																				
Mr. Sullivan																				
Mr. Tavel																				
Mr. Trotter																				
Tele. Room																				
Miss Holmes																				
Miss Gandy																				

SUBJECT: CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORTS - Lee Harvey Oswald

The Embassy reports herein on correspondence received from Lee Harvey OSWALD since its last communication to the Department on Lee subject (Despatch 29, July 21, 1961). Attached as enclosure No. 1 are copies of four letters received from Oswald dated July 15, August (with date), August 6, and October 4 respectively. (The spelling is Mr. Oswald's.)

It will be noted that Oswald is having difficulty in obtaining exit visas for himself and his Soviet wife, and that they are subject to increasing harassment in Minsk. In replying to Oswald's latest letter, the Embassy pointed out that it has no way of influencing Soviet action on exit visas. It informed him that the question of his passport renewal could be discussed with him personally at the Embassy. In answer to Oswald's question, the Embassy notified him that the petition to classify his wife's status had not yet been approved.

For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.:
Boris H. Klason
 Boris H. Klason
 Counselor for Political Affairs

Enclosure: *att*
 As stated

J. Boardman
 Mr. Tolson
 Mr. Boardman
 Mr. Nichols
 Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Casper
 Mr. Callahan
 Mr. Conrad
 Mr. DeLoach
 Mr. Evans
 Mr. Gale
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Sullivan
 Mr. Tavel
 Mr. Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Miss Holmes
 Miss Gandy

OPPOSITE:

Foreign Service Dispatch released by the CIA: It says, "No evidence was revealed of any act on his part which might have caused loss of his American citizenship... He stated that he took no oath or allegiance of any kind..."

TOP:

There was a problem with obtaining exit visas. Here it is revealed by the Counselor for Political Affairs that Oswald reported "that they are subject to increasing harassment in Minsk."

BOTTOM AND NEXT PAGE:

Oswald himself petitioned the American Embassy in Moscow for help in obtaining exit visas. These letters also allude to mistreatment at the hands of the Russians. Quote, "While we were still in Moscow, the foremen at her [Marina's] place of work were notified that she and I went into the Embassy... Then there followed the usual, 'enemy of the people' meeting, in which in her absence, she was condemned [sic] and her friends at work warned against speaking with her." Also note the letter dated October 4, 1961 which says, "I believe it is doubly important for an official inquiry, since there have been systematic and concerted attempts to intimidate my wife into withdrawing her application for on visa."

TO: American Embassy, Moscow
 July 15, 1961

Dear Sirs,

In per instructions I am writing to inform you of the process and progress of our visas.

We have approached the local "GUEP" office and the results are not discouraging. However there have been some unusual and crude attempts on my wife at her place of work. While we were still in Moscow, the foremen at her place of work were notified that she and I went into the Embassy for the purpose of visas. Then there followed the usual, "enemy of the people" meeting, in which in her absence, she was condemned and her friends at work warned against speaking with her. However, those tactics are quite useless, and my wife stood up well, without getting into trouble.

We are continuing the process and will keep you informed as to the overall picture.

Sincerely yours,
 Lee H. Oswald
 (Embassy replied July 24, 1961)

TO: American Embassy, Moscow
 August

Dear Sirs:

Here are the copies of the wedding certificate and birth certificate requested by the Embassy in relation with the entrance visa into the US for my wife, Marina H. Oswald.

If other copies of these documents are necessary or if other documents are required please inform me.

Yours truly
 Lee H. Oswald

TO: American Embassy, Moscow
 August 8, 1961

Dear Sirs,

Since my American passport was stamped "Valid only for direct travel to the U.S." I would like to know if it would be permissible for me to travel through Poland to Berlin by train, when I leave Minsk, since I cannot

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

No. 1
Desp. No 317.
From Moscow

afford to fly direct from Moscow to New York.

My relations are also unable to help me, financially.

I believe I could catch a military hop back to the States, from Berlin.

If the Embassy can advise or assist me I would appreciate it.

Perhaps a letter from the Embassy explaining my position, which I could then show the military in Berlin, would assist me to get a hop.

I sincerely hope you will give attention to my request.

Thank you
Leo H. Oswald

TO: the American Embassy
Moscow U.S.S.R., Oct. 4, 1961

Dear Sirs;

I am hereby requesting the Offices of the American Embassy and the Ambassador of the United States, Mr. Thompson, to act upon my case in regards to my application to the Soviet authorities for an exit visa.

This application was made on July 20, 1961, and although three months have already elapsed I have not received this visa. There was no difficulty with the application itself or with the supporting documents including my valid American passport No. 1733242, which was returned to me on July 8, 1961, at the American Embassy in Moscow, where it had been kept for safe-keeping.

I have made repeated inquiries to the proper offices in Minsk but I have, as yet, to receive a satisfactory answer.

I believe there is justification for an official inquiry, directed to the department of "Internal Affairs, Prospect Stalin 15, Minsk," and the offices of the "address and passport office," Ulitsa Moskovaya, Colonel Petrakof director."

Also, I believe it is doubly important for an official inquiry, since there have been systematic and concerted attempts to intimidate my wife into withdrawing her application for an exit visa. I have notified the Embassy in regard to these incidents by the local authorities in regard to my wife, these incidents had resulted in my wife being hospitalized for a five day

UNCLASSIFIED

DL 105-4435
WRH/jlr

MARRIAGE TO LEE HARVEY OSWALD

MARINA OSWALD advised on November 30, 1963, she had been invited to attend a social affair to be held at the Palace of Culture in Minsk by some medical student friends. This was about the middle of March of 1961. She went to this dance and there was introduced by a mutual friend of hers and OSWALD, YURI MERZHEVINSKY, to LEE HARVEY OSWALD. She was invited to dance by OSWALD and she accepted, and thereafter they spent much time together that evening. She noted OSWALD's Russian, although good, bore a definite accent. She thought OSWALD possibly had come from one of the Russian-speaking Baltic countries. That evening OSWALD asked if he could see her again.

Subject advised in an interview on December 1, 1963, that she and a girl friend had again gone to the Palace of Culture a week later to attend a dance, and she found OSWALD waiting for her. She and OSWALD joined company and spent the entire evening dancing and thereafter OSWALD took her home. At this time she was residing in the apartment of her aunt and uncle. She and OSWALD made arrangements to meet the following Friday on a certain street corner in Minsk. During that following week, her aunt told her that a boy named ALEX had called on the telephone and asked for MARINA, and ALEX had told the aunt he was in the Fourth Clinical Hospital in the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Department. MARINA explained OSWALD was known to her as ALEX because the Russian people preferred to call him ALEX in preference to LEE. She said the pronunciation of the name LEE is foreign to the Russian ear. She visited OSWALD at the Fourth Clinical Hospital and discovered he was a patient for correction of a glaucoma ear problem. She visited him everyday while he was at the hospital.

Subject explained she had found out that OSWALD was an American on the occasion of their first meeting at the Palace of Culture. She found this out through a third party. On her first visit to the hospital to see OSWALD, she asked him some questions about America. OSWALD told her he preferred America to Russia because he could not take the hard winters. He said he did not think he could live through another hard Russian winter. She asked him why he had come to Russia, and he replied

-16-

DL 105-4435
WRH/jlr

that as Russia was considered the leader of the Socialist World he wanted to see it. OSWALD did not say how long he was going to stay in Russia. She asked him on this first visit to the hospital if he could return to the United States and he said he could not return. OSWALD said he had given up his American documents to the American Embassy and told the American officials he would never return to America. She said that after they were married OSWALD told her he had been offered Soviet citizenship prior to their marriage, but he had refused it.

Subject explained she had been interested in the United States while she resided in Russia as she was interested in all foreign countries. She said she knew OSWALD could not return to the United States because he said he could not. Subject at this point volunteered the information she had married OSWALD because she loved him and not because he was an American or for the purpose of coming to the United States.

Following his release from the hospital, OSWALD and subject frequently saw each other. He was introduced to subject's uncle and aunt, who did not disapprove of OSWALD but were, in fact, glad MARINA had reduced the number of her boy friends to almost one. She explained she also on occasion saw a young man by the name of ANATOLI (Last Name Unknown) who was attending medical school.

On April 20, 1961, she agreed to marry OSWALD. Together they went to the registrar to file their intent to marry. They were told it would take her seven days to obtain permission to marry a foreigner. This permission was granted in seven days, and it was, thereafter, necessary to wait three more days to fulfill the required ten days waiting period. They were certified as married by the registrar on April 20, 1961. On that same date, TEF KUM AND UNCLE had a reception for them in their apartment and invited their friends.

During this interview of December 1, 1963, MARINA said she had not been interviewed by any official concerning her proposed marriage to OSWALD, and the only act she had performed was to register as related above.

-17-

TOP, BOTTOM:

This FBI memo details how Marina met and married Lee Harvey. Note that Oswald was using the name "Alik." In other documents he stated this was because Lee was too difficult for Russians to pronounce. They met in March of '61 and agreed to marry on April 20th. Permission was granted in a week, and three days later the deed was done.

BACKGROUND INFO:

Marina Oswald does not nearly present as much of an enigma as Lee Harvey. All the evidence reveals that she really did fall in love with her husband, but eventually became disenchanted by the realities of life in the U.S. It should also be noted that while Marina testified to her husband's guilt in the shooting of the President, provided the picture of the gun used to shoot Kennedy, and offered other evidence, she later claimed he was innocent. In fact, her testimony was contradictory on many counts. It has also been suggested that her testimony was coerced, and that she had been warned that if she didn't cooperate she would have to leave the country. She said that while she was not overtly threatened, "there was a clear implication that it would be better if I were to help."

DL 105-1435

subsequent to her marriage in Russia, and that she had not been so contacted in the United States. She said she had made application with the appropriate Russian officials to obtain appropriate documentation to leave the country. She said she has nothing against Russia nor against the United States. She said she would not carry out an espionage or intelligence assignment for either country if she were asked because she wants to lead a simple plain life.

On December 9, 1963, MARINA was questioned as to why the Soviets had permitted her to leave Russia. She said when she first applied for permission from the Russian Government to leave Russia, she did not have high hopes of being able to depart. She said she had not heard of any specific difficulties which had to be overcome by a Russian citizen requesting permission to live abroad, but she thought she would have a hard time obtaining this permission. She received a standard letter from authorities in answer to her initial request for an exit permit. Following this, she received on about New Year's of 1962 a communication from the Russian Government that permission would be granted her to depart for the United States. She received her actual exit permit in May, 1962. In this connection, MARINA OSWALD advised on December 9, 1963, she does not believe OSWALD had any trouble obtaining official Russian documentation to depart Russia. She said generally speaking foreigners who reside in Russia do not have any difficulty in this regard. She feels sure there was no deal between OSWALD and Russia for OSWALD to furnish information to them in return for being permitted to leave Russia. She said OSWALD had been given certain preferential treatment while in Russia, which most foreigners are allowed. For example, he was permitted to live in an apartment rather than a dormitory while in Minsk, while probably it would have been better that he be required to live in a dormitory so he would know what Russian life was like.

FRIENDS, ACQUAINTANCES AND SOCIAL LIFE IN RUSSIA

Subject advised on November 30, 1963, her uncle and aunt in Minsk had discussed with her her possibilities of getting married, and her uncle was opposed to an early

1 - Mr Stokes 12-13-63

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE URGENT

TO SAC DALLAS
FROM DIRECTOR FBI
LEE HARVEY OSWALD, IS - R,
IN CONNECTION PLANNED REINTERVIEWS OF MARINA OSWALD,
CAREFULLY REVIEW OSWALD'S DIARY AND HIS OTHER PERSONAL EFFECTS
OBTAINED AS RESULT OF SEARCHES SUBSEQUENT TO HIS ARREST AND
QUESTION MRS. OSWALD RE ANYTHING OF PERTINENCY NOTED THEREIN.
BUREAU DESIRES THAT SHE BE SPECIFICALLY QUESTIONED CONCERNING
THE COMMENTS OF OSWALD CONCERNING THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE
SOVIET UNION. INCLUDE IN QUESTIONING OF MRS. OSWALD
SUBJECT'S ENTRIES CONCERNING HIS AFFAIRS WITH WOMEN IN RUSSIA.
NOTE THAT WHILE MRS. OSWALD HAS DENIED EVER BEING QUESTIONED
BY SOVIET INTELLIGENCE, ENTRY IN OSWALD'S DIARY INDICATES THAT
SHE WAS SUBJECTED TO INTERVIEW BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES PRIOR TO
LEAVING USSR. QUESTION MRS. OSWALD RE PERIOD IN LATE SIXTY ONE
WHEN IT APPEARS FROM OSWALD DOCUMENTS THAT SHE MADE TRIP FROM
MUSK FOR EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME. NOTE THE HIGH DEGREE OF
COINCIDENCE IN MRS. OSWALD'S ASSERTION THAT SHE FOUND OSWALD'S
NOTE WRITTEN IN CONTEMPLATION OF ASSASSINATION OF GENERAL
WALKER.

REC-56 105 8272-545
JCS/INTELLIGENCE SECTION
(3) COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
DEC 13 1963 8:36 P
COPIES DESTROYED
FEB 2 1973
DEC 13 1963
TELETYPE UNIT

OPPOSITE PAGE:

Much has been made of the ease with which Marina Oswald was permitted to leave the U.S.S.R. Note, "She said when she first applied, she did not have high hopes of being able to depart." And later, "Marina Oswald advised... she does not believe Oswald had any trouble obtaining official Russian documentation to depart Russia. She feels sure there was no deal between Oswald and Russia for Oswald to furnish information to them in return for being permitted to leave..."

TOP AND BOTTOM:

Marina Oswald was to provide much information about their activities in the Soviet Union. However, many inconsistencies have been revealed about her testimony in general. Here's an interesting aside regarding that supposed assassination attempt on General Walker mentioned in the introduction. "NOTE THE HIGH DEGREE OF COINCIDENCE IN MRS. OSWALD'S ASSERTION THAT SHE FOUND OSWALD'S NOTE WRITTEN IN CONTEMPLATION OF ASSASSINATION OF GENERAL WALKER."

TELETYPE TO DALLAS
RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

WALKER ON NIGHT OSWALD ATTEMPTED THE ACT. QUESTION HER CONCERNING THIS AND ASCERTAIN SPECIFICALLY WHERE AND HOW SHE FOUND NOTE. QUESTION HER CONCERNING HER LANGUAGE ABILITY. DOES SHE SPEAK FRENCH? DID OSWALD HAVE ANY COMMAND OF SPANISH OR GERMAN? DETERMINE HOW THE RIFLE WAS TRANSPORTED FROM NEW ORLEANS TO PAINE RESIDENCE. WAS IT AMONG HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS TRANSPORTED BY MRS. PAINE? IDENTIFY ALL OF THE SOVIET PERSONALITIES MENTIONED IN OSWALD DOCUMENTS AND PRESS HER FOR FULL SPECIFICS AS TO HER KNOWLEDGE OF THESE PEOPLE. NOTE IN THIS REGARD INDIVIDUALS REFERRED TO IN YOUR DECEMBER ONE LAST THREE ZERO TWO FORM RE NOVEMBER THIRTY LAST INTERVIEW.

DEC 13 1963 8:36 P
TELETYPE UNIT

- 2 -



DL 100-10461

TRANSLATION FROM RUSSIAN

(Written on top):

"Comrade Gerasimov

--- (illegible initials)

2(?) / 25" vz639
1/26/63"

February 17, 1963

Dallas

Dear Comrade Reznichenko!

I beg your assistance to help me to return to the Homeland in the USSR where I will again feel myself a full-fledged citizen. Please let me know what I should do for this, i. e., perhaps it will be necessary to fill out a special application form. Since I am not working at present (because of my lack of knowledge of the English language and a small child), I am requesting you to extend to me a possible material aid for the trip. My husband remains here, since he is an American by nationality. I beg you once more not to refuse my request.

Respectfully,

/s/ Marina Oswald.

TRANSLATED BY:
TATIANA NIKONISHIN:drv
November 30, 1963

371

DL 100-10461

TRANSLATION FROM RUSSIAN

Copy of a three-page handwritten letter

To the Embassy of the USSR
in the U. S. A., Washington,
Consular Section,
Comrade Reznichenko

from Oswald, Marina Nikolaevna

Dear Comrade Reznichenko!

I received two letters from you in which you requested me to indicate the reason for my wish to return to the USSR.

But first of all, permit me to apologize for such a long silence on my part and to thank you for a considerate attitude toward me on the part of the Embassy. The reasons for my silence were certain family "problems" (if one can express it this way) which stood in the way. That is also one of the reasons why I wish to return to the Homeland. The main reason, "of course" (sic), is homesickness, regarding which much is written and spoken, but one learns it only in a foreign land.

I count among family "problems" the fact that in the middle or the end of October, I expect the birth of my second child. This would have probably complicated matters for me, because I would not be able to work during the first few months. And yet, I have no one from whom I could expect help, for I have no parents. My relatives were against my going to America and, therefore, I could be ashamed to appeal to them. That is why I had to weigh everything once more before replying to your letter.

But things are improving due to the fact that my husband expresses a sincere wish

TRANSLATED BY:
TATIANA NIKONISHIN:drv
November 30, 1963

380

OPPOSITE:

Oswald and a friend in Minsk. Note that while many said this photo does not resemble Lee Harvey, in fact it clearly does. His buddy is either Hungarian or Cuban, depending on the source.

TOP:

Postscript on Marina: After disillusionment with Oswald and America, she would beg to return to the U.S.S.R. She wrote, "I beg you once more not to refuse my request."

BOTTOM AND NEXT PAGE:

Marina later followed up on her desire to repatriate to the Soviet Union. She said this was on account of her newest pregnancy. She refers to this birth as "family 'problems' (if one can express it this way) which stood in the way." Apparently, there were plans for Oswald to return with her. "Please do not deny our request," she wrote. "Make us happy again, help us to return that which we lost because of our foolishness."

ADDENDUM:

Marina never did make it back to the Soviet Union. She was sequestered for quite a while after the assassination of John Kennedy. Eventually, she married an American businessman whom she later accused of abusing her and subsequently divorced.

DL 100-10461

to return together with me to the USSR. I earnestly beg you to help him in this. There is not much that is encouraging for us here and nothing to hold us. I would not be able to work for time being, even if I did find work. And my husband is often unemployed. It is very difficult for us to live here. We have no money to enable me to come to the Embassy, not even to pay for hospital and other expenses connected with the birth of a child. We both urgently solicit your assistance to enable us to return and work in the USSR.

In my application I did not specify the place in which I would like to live in the Soviet Union. I earnestly beg you to help us to obtain permission to live in Leningrad where I grew up and went to school. I have a sister and a brother of my mother's second marriage there. I know that I do not have to explain to you the reason for my wish to live precisely in that city. It speaks for itself. I permit myself to write this without any desire to belittle the merits of our other cities. Moreover, it would be easier for me to find employment in Leningrad, since there are more pharmacies there and additional personnel are needed. For instance, where I came to Minsk from Leningrad, I could not find work in my specialty for quite a long time, because they had sufficient personnel.

These are the basic reasons why I and my husband wish to return to the USSR. Please do not deny our request. Make us happy again, help us to return that which we lost because of our foolishness. I would like to have my second child, too, to be born in the USSR.

Sincerely and respectfully,

/s/ M. Oswald

Memorandum to Mr. A. H. Belmont
RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
105-82355

On 3/17/63 she submitted a request for a visa to re-enter the Soviet Union and submitted a one-page autobiography of herself and a two-page questionnaire filled out by an individual requesting a visa. In this questionnaire she stated that her name was Marina Nikolayevna Oswald and that she was born 7/17/41 in Severo-Dvinsk, Arkhangelskaya Oblast. She stated that she was a Soviet citizen and that she was a housewife ~~she~~ she had a small child and did not understand the English language. She stated that until June, 1962, she had lived in Russia and worked as a pharmacist. In her autobiography she stated that she lived with her mother and stepfather in Leningrad and had graduated from secondary school and attended the Leningrad Pharmaceutical School.

By letter dated 4/18/63 the Soviet Embassy informed her it would be desirable if she could come to Washington and, if she could not do so, furnish the Embassy the reasons which caused her to start proceedings to enter the Soviet Union. By letter dated 6/4/63 this request for such information was repeated.

A three-page, undated letter from Marina Oswald furnished her reasons for requesting repatriation. She gave as the main reason homesickness and unemployment on the part of both herself and her husband. In this letter she also stated that her husband "expresses a sincere wish" to return to the Soviet Union.

On 7/1/63 Lee Oswald wrote to the Soviet Embassy and requested expeditious handling of his wife's request for a visa and asked that his visa be handled separately. On 8/5/63 Mrs. Oswald was advised that her request had been forwarded to Moscow for processing.

The last item in the file is a letter written by Lee Oswald from Post Office Box 6225, Dallas, Texas, in which he reported that he had contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City. He pointed out that he was unable to remain in Mexico indefinitely. He stated that he had not planned to contact the Soviet Embassy in Mexico and, if he had been able to reach the Soviet Embassy in Havana as planned, that Embassy would have had time to complete their business. In this letter he also mentioned that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had visited his wife and himself in Dallas, Texas, on November 1 and suggested to his wife that she could remain in the United States.

- 2 -

Memorandum to Mr. A. H. Belmont
RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
105-82355

SECRET

He stated that he and his wife strongly protested these tactics. Of course, our Agents in Dallas did not interview Mr. and Mrs. Oswald on 11/1/62. On that date an Agent from the Dallas Office interviewed Mrs. Ruth Paine, landlady of the subject, to ascertain the location of Oswald. Mrs. Paine was friendly and cooperative and advised that Oswald was working at the Texas School Book Depository and had a room in Dallas, the address of which she did not know. During the interview, Marina Oswald entered the room and upon learning the identity of our Agent showed some alarm. She was assured through Mrs. Paine that the Agent was not there to molest her in any way. She was not interviewed nor was an approach of any kind made to her.

ACTION:

The above is submitted for information.

- 3 -

SECRET

THIS PAGE: FBI MEMO:

"She [Marina] gave as the main reason [for repatriation] homesickness and unemployment on the part of both herself and her husband... Her husband 'expresses a sincere wish' to return to the Soviet Union."

ADDENDUM:

An interesting aside in this memo about Marina is Oswald's supposed contact with the Mexican embassy about a subsequent possible return to the Soviet Union or Cuba: "He reported that he had contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City. He stated that he had not planned to contact the Soviet Embassy in Mexico..." (As a side-note, this letter also refers to a visit to Oswald and Marina by the FBI, which seemed to have agitated him. "In this letter he also mentioned that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had visited his wife and himself on November 1 and suggested to his wife that she could remain in the United States." The FBI denied this, and said they were interviewing Oswald's landlady and "Marina Oswald entered the room and upon learning the identity of our Agent showed some alarm. She was assured... that the Agent was not there to molest her in any way. She was not interviewed nor was an approach of any kind made to her.")



A review on May 9, 1961, of the files of the Passport Office, U. S. Department of State, Washington, D. C., revealed that on or about January 20, 1961, Mrs. MARGUERITE OSWALD, mother of subject, appeared at the U. S. Department of State in Washington, D. C. She advised that she had come to Washington to see what could be done to help her son, the subject. She expressed the thought that perhaps her son had gone to the Soviet Union as a "secret agent" and that the State Department was not doing enough to help him. She was advised that such was not the case and that efforts were being made to help her son.

On February 13, 1961, the U. S. Embassy in Moscow, USSR, received an undated letter from LEE HARVEY OSWALD postmarked Minsk, February 8, 1961. In this letter OSWALD indicated that he desired the return of his U. S. passport as he wished to return to the United States if "we could come to some agreement concerning the dropping of any legal proceedings against me." He also said that he could not leave Minsk without permission and therefore was writing instead of visiting the American Embassy.

On March 20, 1961, the U. S. Embassy in Moscow received a letter from OSWALD postmarked Minsk, March 3, 1961. In this letter OSWALD said he found it inconvenient to come to Moscow for an interview at the American Embassy and that he could not leave Minsk without permission. He asked that in place of a personal interview he be sent a questionnaire.

OPPOSITE:

Whether or not Oswald wanted to return to the U.S.S.R. remains a mystery. In any event, he certainly wanted out of Russia once he'd had his fill of Minsk. At the same time, he wanted desperately to clear up his dishonorable discharge. He did not let the issue drop even in Minsk. This is a letter from there to the Department of the Navy.

TOP:

Another letter: "In this letter Oswald indicated that he desired the return of his U.S. passport if 'we could come to some agreement concerning the dropping of legal proceedings.'"

BOTTOM:

An interesting memo that not only reveals Marina's wish to be repatriated, but mentions a New Year's greeting card sent from Marina and Lee addressed to "All Russian Employees of the Soviet Embassy." There's a statement in this correspondence that directly contradicts the information on the previous memo that Oswald, too, wished to return to the U.S.S.R. Here, this document states, "She said her husband would remain in the United States since he was an American citizen." (The embassy subsequently advised her that she would receive a passport for a return.)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont
 FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan
 SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
 INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

SECRET DATE: December 1, 1963

1 - Mr. Belmont
 1 - Mr. Rosen
 1 - Mr. DeLoach
 1 - Mr. Evans
 1 - Mr. Sullivan
 1 - Mr. Branigan
 1 - Mr. Turner

This memorandum contains a review of the Soviet Consular file on Lee Harvey Oswald turned over to the State Department by the Soviet Embassy 11/30/63. The file shows correspondence between the Soviet Embassy and Mr. and Mrs. Oswald concerning her registration as a Soviet citizen and the return of both to the Soviet Union.

Background

On 11/30/63 Anatoli Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, turned over to the Secretary of State a file alleged to be the complete consular file on Lee H. and Marina Oswald maintained in the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C. The contents of this file have been translated into the English language.

Review of File

The first item in the file is a letter dated 7/6/62 from Marina Oswald to the Embassy for the purpose of registering as a Soviet citizen in the United States. By letter 7/9/62 the Embassy requested her to send her Soviet Residence Permit in for registration. She evidently did so as on 8/15/62 she asked the Embassy what had happened to her permit. On 8/28/62 the Embassy advised her the document had been received and that her passport would be sent to her soon.

The file contained a New Year's greeting card from Marina and Lee Oswald addressed to "All Russian Employees of the Soviet Embassy."

By letter 2/17/63 Marina Oswald requested information on how she could return to the Soviet Union and she asked for material aid to do so. She said her husband would remain in the United States since he was an American citizen. By letter dated 3/8/63 the Soviet Embassy instructed her to fill out an application, furnish a detailed biography and request permission to return to the Soviet Union. She was told the processing of this application would take five to six months.

105-82555

JPL:rbm
(8)
58 DEC 10 1963REC-18
105-82555-18
XEROX SECRET
DEC 9 1963

25 DEC 9 1963

Watson
Weesling

SAC, Dallas (100-10461)

5/31/62

Director, FBI (105-82555)

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R

State Department communication dated 5/17/62 furnished the following information concerning subject:

712
"It has been determined that Oswald, the ex-Marine, is still an American citizen; both he and his Soviet wife now have exit permits, and the Department has given approval for their travel with their infant child to the U.S.A. There is a problem with his wife, however, in that SOV in the Department is trying to get a waiver of 243G, which requires that Oswald's wife pick up her visa for entry into the U.S.A. in Western Europe. As soon as this question has been settled, they will be free to travel."

You should be alert for subject's return to the United States and immediately upon his arrival you should thoroughly interview him to determine whether he was recruited by Soviet Intelligence or made any deals with Soviets in order to obtain permission to return to the United States. *Q*

Bufiles reveal that subject apparently did not have access to classified information. However, he is a former Marine Corps enlisted man; and according to information received from the Navy Department, he had service with the Marine Air Control Squadrons in Japan and Taiwan with duties involving Ground-Control Intercept. Dallas report 7/3/61 contained information to the effect that when subject appeared at the American Embassy, Moscow, in 1959 he was arrogant and aggressive; and he was quoted as having offered the Soviets any information he had acquired as an enlisted radio operator.

Radan
In your interview with subject, you should attempt to ascertain exactly what information he furnished to the Soviets. If any doubt exists as to subject's truthfulness during such interview, you should consider requesting his consent to a polygraph examination and, thereafter, obtain Bureau authority for such an examination. Results of interview with subject should be submitted in form suitable for dissemination.

MAILED 27
MAY 31 1962
COMM-FBI

- _____ Tolson
- _____ Belmont
- _____ Mohr
- _____ DeLoach
- _____ Casper
- _____ Callahan
- _____ Conrad
- _____ Felt
- _____ Gale
- _____ Rosen
- _____ Sullivan
- _____ Tavel
- _____ Trotter
- _____ Tele. Room
- _____ Holmes
- _____ Gandy

1 - WFO (105-37111)

REC-38

105-82555-24

19 JUN 1 1962

WIG:VMC

(6)

TELETYPE UNIT

ST-104

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

Handwritten initials and marks

COPY

COPY

REF ID: A66278 7 MARCH 1962

LEE H. OSWALD
Kalinina St. 4-27
Minsk U.S.S.R.
March 22, 1962

R. McC. TOMPKINS
Brigadier Gen., U.S.M.C.
Ass. Direct. of Personnel

Dear Sirs;

In reply to your notification of the granting of an Undesirable discharge and your conveying of the process at which it was arrived.

I would like to point out in direct opposition to your information that I have never taken steps to renounce my U. S. citizenship. Also that the United States State Department has no charges or complaints against me what/so ever.

I refer you to the United States Embassy, Moscow, or the U.S. department of State Washington D.C., for the verification of this fact.

Also, I was aware of the finding of the Board of officers of 8 August 1960. I was notified by my mother, in December 1962.

My request to the Secretary of the Navy, his referral to you and your letter to me, did not say anything about a Review, which is what I was trying to arrange.

You mention "reliable information" as the basis for the Undesirable discharge. I have no doubt it was newspapers speculation which forward your "reliable information."

Under U.S. law governing the use of passports and conduct abroad I have a perfect right to reside in my country I wish too.

I have not violated; Section 1544, Title 18, U.S. code, therefore you have no legal or even moral right, to reverse my honourable discharge from the U.S.M.C. of Sept. 11, 1960, into a undesirable discharge.

You may consider this letter a request by me for a full review of my case in the light of these facts, since by the time you receive this letter I shall have returned to the U.S.A. with my family, and shall be prepared to appear in person at a reasonable time and place in my area, before a reviewing board of officers.

If you choose to convene a review board you my contact me through the below address in the United States after May 15th 1962.

LEE H. OSWALD
7313 DAVENPORT St.
Fort Worth, Texas.

Sincerely,
/s/LEE H. OSWALD

105-82555-22
ENCLOSURE

COPY

Enclosure (1)
041 1tr ser 827 192

OPPOSITE:

The State Department said it was okay for Oswald to return. "It has been determined that Oswald... is still an American citizen." Interesting, since he'd clearly renounced his citizenship. Note the paragraph, "You should be alert for subject return and immediately upon his arrival you should thoroughly interview him to determine whether he was recruited by Soviet Intelligence or made any deals with Soviets." According to many, this interview never took place and Oswald returned without event or fanfare.

THIS PAGE

Finally, in asking for reversal of his discharge status, Oswald would eventually claim he never renounced his citizenship. "I have never taken steps to renounce my U.S. citizenship," he wrote to Brigadier General R. McC. Tompkins. His case was eventually reviewed and his status unchanged.

Watson
Weesling

SAC, Dallas (100-10461)

5/31/62

Director, FBI (105-82555)

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R

State Department communication dated 5/17/62 furnished the following information concerning subject:

"It has been determined that Oswald, the ex-Marine, is still an American citizen; both he and his Soviet wife now have exit permits, and the Department has given approval for their travel with their infant child to the U.S.A. There is a problem with his wife, however, in that SOV in the Department is trying to get a waiver of 243G, which requires that Oswald's wife pick up her visa for entry into the U.S.A. in Western Europe. As soon as this question has been settled, they will be free to travel."

You should be alert for subject's return to the United States and immediately upon his arrival you should thoroughly interview him to determine whether he was recruited by Soviet Intelligence or made any deals with Soviets in order to obtain permission to return to the United States.

Bufiles reveal that subject apparently did not have access to classified information. However, he is a former Marine Corps enlisted man; and according to information received from the Navy Department, he had service with the Marine Air Control Squadrons in Japan and Taiwan with duties involving Ground-Control Intercept. Dallas report 7/3/61 contained information to the effect that when subject appeared at the American Embassy, Moscow, in 1959 he was arrogant and aggressive; and he was quoted as having offered the Soviets any information he had acquired as an enlisted radio operator.

In your interview with subject, you should attempt to ascertain exactly what information he furnished to the Soviets. If any doubt exists as to subject's truthfulness during such interview, you should consider requesting his consent to a polygraph examination and, thereafter, obtain Bureau authority for such an examination. Results of interview with subject should be submitted in form suitable for dissemination.

1 - WFO (105-37111)

REC-38

19 JUN 1 1962

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

MAILED 27
MAY 31 1962
COMM-FBI

- _____ Tolson
- _____ Belmont
- _____ Mohr
- _____ DeLoach
- _____ Casper
- _____ Callahan
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- _____ Sullivan
- _____ Tavel
- _____ Trotter
- _____ Tele. Room
- _____ Holmes
- _____ Gandy

WIG:UMC
(6)

ST-104
TELETYPE UNIT

24
WFO



Fair Play For Cuba Committee

A truly odd episode in Lee Harvey Oswald's supposed career as a Marxist was tied to incidents connected with the organization "Fair Play for Cuba Committee."

In the summer of 1963 Oswald was arrested while passing out leaflets for this organization, after he became embroiled in a scuffle with some Cubans who did not share his political views.

However, there has always been some question as to the actual existence of such an organization, and Oswald's role in it.

The most provocative theories about the FPCC and its real purposes are contained in the book "On the Trail of the Assassins" by Jim Garrison. (This is the source for much of the material in Oliver Stone's movie "JFK.")

It should be taken into account that Jim Garrison is in a solid position to assess Oswald's New Orleans activities, as he was the city's District Attorney.

According to Garrison, the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was a front organization for the right wing, and Oswald was an agent provocateur for the organization. Here's why:

Leaflets Oswald handed out on August 9th were stamped with an address on 544 Camp Street, the same building which shared the address 531 Lafayette Street. The FPCC headquarters, therefore, shared space with the offices of Guy Banister, a private investigator formerly with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. That such a person would allow Marxist pamphleteering from his office is doubtful.

According to Garrison, "This was the first evidence I encountered that Lee Oswald had not been a communist or a Marxist of any

kind. What appeared to be considerably more probable, now that I had seen the setup at 544 Camp, was that Guy Banister—or someone associated with him—had been using Oswald as an agent provocateur."

Garrison says that after Oswald's arrest for the pamphleteering disturbance, he, Oswald, asked to talk to the FBI and was interviewed by Agent John Quigley. Interestingly, Quigley later burned his interview notes, contrary to standard FBI procedure. Garrison posits this as more evidence that Oswald was "actually working with Guy Banister, a former high-ranking FBI official, who could have easily arranged it."

Garrison concludes, "In most countries, under such circumstances, a serious investigation would have begun with the working hypothesis that the intelligence community in New Orleans had used Lee Oswald as an agent provocateur. However, it was plain... federal investigators never once had glanced in the most obvious directions... The application of every reasonable model to the available evidence had left me with a troubling conclusion. That was the apparent possibility of a pre-existing relationship between the man portrayed as the lone killer of President Kennedy and the intelligence community of the United States Government."

There are other interesting discrepancies in the documents that follow. For example, the head of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee is listed in one document as a Mr. "Hidell", (sometimes spelled "Hiddell.") In fact there's some doubt that Hidell ever existed. The Post Office box listed as his address is nonexistent. It's a P.O. Box, by the way, that Oswald also listed as being his.

NY 105-38431
6.

4.

"Lee H. Oswald
4907 Magazine
August 1

"Dear Mr. Lee

"In regards to my efforts to start a branch FPCC in New Orleans.

"I rented an office as I planned and was promptly closed three days later for some obscure reasons by the renters. They said something about remodeling ect., I'm sure you understand. It's that I worked out of a post office box and by using street demonstrations and some circular work have substained a great deal of interest but no new members.

"Through the efforts of some cuban-exial "gusanos" a street demonstration was attacked and we were officially cautioned by police. This incident robbed me of what support I had leaving me alone.

"never-the-less thousands of circulars were distrubed and many, many pamphlets which your office supplied.

"We also manged to picket the fleet when it came in and I was surprised at the number of officers who were interested in our literature.

"I continue to recive through my post office box inquires and questions which I shall endeavor to keep ansewering to the best of my ability.

"Thank you
"Lee H. Oswald

"P.O. Box 30061
"New Orleans,
La."

SECRET
CODE

T. Turner
10-22-63

CABLEGRAM
TO DIRECTOR FBI (100-82555) 43

DEFERRED

VIA CABLEGRAM
OCT 22 1963

LEE OSWALD, IS - R.

REUSCAR OCTOBER EIGHTEEN LAST.

OSWALD APPARENTLY IDENTICAL WITH LEE HARVEY OSWALD,
BUT LEE HENRY OSWALD. OTHER INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPHS TWO
REUSCAR ACCURATE. @ U

OSWALD RETURNED TO U.S. FROM USSR JUNE THIRTEEN, ONE NINE
SIX TWO, WITH RUSSIAN-BORN WIFE AND DAUGHTER BOTH USSR
FEBRUARY FIFTEEN, ONE NINE SIX TWO. IN INTERVIEWS OSWALD
HAS INDICATED FURNISHING SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION TO SOVIET
INTELLIGENCE. OSWALD HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN DRINKING TO EXCESS
AND REPORTEDLY BEAT HIS WIFE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. OSWALD
WAS ARRESTED BY NY POLICE DEPARTMENT AUGUST NINE LAST FOR
QUOTE DISTURBING THE PEACE AND CREATING A SCENE END QUOTE
AT WHICH TIME HE WAS PASSING OUT LITERATURE RELATED TO QUOTE
FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE. END QUOTE. @ U

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND BEING FURNISHED BY MAIL. CIA
FURNISHED BUREAU THE SAME INFORMATION AS IN RECAR. NO AND WFO
ADVISED BY MAIL.

SECRET

WFO (100-37111)

SEE NOTE, PAGE 3

OPPOSITE:

Oswald rents an office for the start of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. The addressed "Lee" has made some contrary depositions regarding his role, if any, in the FPCC. Note also the P.O. Box 30061, which later turned out not to exist, as well as Oswald's terrible spelling. He was said to suffer from dyslexia.

TOP:

This cablegram about Oswald's arrest for pamphleteering disturbances reveals some other interesting details. Note the line, "Oswald has reportedly been drinking to excess and reportedly beat his wife on numerous occasions."

BOTTOM:

This telex provides more information on the A. Hidell character supposedly involved with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. "When arrested," it says, "Oswald was carrying a selective service card having the name of Alex Hidell. Records here reflect a reference to Ana J. Hidell who reportedly has been distributing quote hands off Cuba unquote literature." Note hand-written comment at end of document, "Have field locate & interview Alex Hidell & Ana Hidell."

SECRET

URGENT 11-22-63 4-23 PM CST LJP

TO - DIRECTOR, FBI, AND SAC, DALLAS

FROM - SAC, SAN ANTONIO 2-PAGES

RE: DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

LT. COLONEL ROBERT E. JONES, OPERATIONS OFFICER, ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH INFANTRY GROUP, SAN ANTONIO, ADVISED THAT THROUGH NEWS BROADCASTS THEY HAD LEARNED THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD HAD BEEN ARRESTED AFTER KILLING A POLICE OFFICER IN A THEATER IN DALLAS AND THAT OSWALD IS A SUSPECT IN PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S DEATH. JONES STATED OSWALD REPORTEDLY IS MARRIED TO A RUSSIAN WOMAN AND HAS TRAVELED EXTENSIVELY IN RUSSIA. WHEN ARRESTED TODAY IN DALLAS, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION HE HAS RECEIVED, OSWALD HAS CARRYING A SELECTIVE SERVICE CARD HAVING THE NAME OF ALEX HIDELL. JONES STATED INCT RECORDS REFLECT A REFERENCE TO ANA J. HIDELL WHO REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTING QUOTE HANDS OFF CUBA UNQUOTE LITERATURE. RECORDS, INCT, NEW ORLEANS, REFLECT LEE HARVEY OSWALD WAS ARRESTED IN NEW ORLEANS DATE UNKNOWN, FOR DISTRIBUTING PRO CUBAN LITERATURE. FILES OF INCT, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, REFLECT OSWALD HAD REQUESTED RUSSIAN CITIZENSHIP AND PERMISSION TO LIVE IN

END PAGE ONE

68DEC5 1963

SECRET

UNREC

PAGE TWO

RUSSIA. LATER ARTICLE, JUNE EIGHT, SIXTYTWO, IN SAN ANTONIO LIGHT, DAILY NEWSPAPER, REFLECTED OSWALD HAD RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES WITH RUSSIAN WIFE AND CHILD AND THAT HE RENOUNCED CAPITALISM AND PRAISED COMMUNISM. ARTICLES REFLECT OSWALD RESIDES IN EITHER DALLAS OR FT. WORTH AND HAS RELATIVES THERE.

LITERHEAD MEMO FOLLOWS.

END AND ACK FILE

EV 5-30 PM ON F D I SA BH

DL 4-30 PM CST DE FBI DL PS

TO

Have field locate & interview Alex Hidell & Ana Hidell

CC-SAC DALLAS

NO 97-74

Mrs. CHARLES F. MURRET, 1757 French Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, LEE OSWALD's aunt, advised on October 1, 1963, that when Mrs. OSWALD originally came to New Orleans a woman driving a station wagon brought her and the baby from Texas. This woman spoke the Russian language and apparently was well known by Mrs. OSWALD. Mrs. MURRET believed that Mrs. OSWALD lived with this woman in Texas while LEE OSWALD was seeking employment in New Orleans.

On October 7, 1963, NO T-1 advised that there is no such Post Office Box as 30016 in the New Orleans area.

Mrs. JESSIE JAMES GARNER, 4909 Magazine Street, advised on October 7, 1963 that LEE OSWALD and his wife did not have any meeting to her knowledge when he was residing at 4907 Magazine Street. She advised that they did have some friends, approximately three or four people, who used to visit them on occasions. She had no information as to the identity of these persons. She stated she had not learned where OSWALD had gone but presumed he had returned to Texas.

On October 15, 1963, NO T-2, who is cognizant of some CP activities in the New Orleans area advised that T-2 is not acquainted with OSWALD or his wife and has no knowledge of any activities on the part of subject organization in New Orleans.

On October 7, 1963, inquiry made at the New Orleans Retailers' Credit Bureau, New Orleans, failed to indicate that there was anyone with a credit record in New Orleans by the name of A. J. HIDEELL. The city directory in New Orleans contained no record in the name of A. J. HIDEELL.

On September 12, 1963, confidential informant NO T-3 made available a transcript of a radio broadcast animated from radio station WDSU, New Orleans, on August 21, 1963, from the program known as "Conversation Carte Blanche". This transcript revealed that on August 21, 1963, LEE HARVEY OSWALD appeared on the aforementioned radio program along with ED BUTLER, Executive Director of the Information Council of the Americas, New Orleans, which organization specializes in the distribution of anti-Communist educational material through Latin America.

NO 100-16601/cv

Identification Record

The Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation furnished the following identification record of the subject on September 5, 1963, under FBI Number 327 925 D:

<u>Contributor of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and Number</u>	<u>Arrested or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
Marine	LEE HARVEY OSWALD #1653230	10/24/56		
PD, New Orleans, La.	LEE HARVEY OSWALD #112-723	8/9/63	828 MCS 42-22 scene	8/12/63, dist the peace by creating a scene guilty and sentenced to \$10 or 10 days. Elected to pay fine.

Employment

Mrs. MARY BERTUCCI, Personnel Secretary, William B. Reilly Coffee Company, 640 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised on August 5, 1963, that LEE HARVEY OSWALD was employed as a maintenance man on May 15, 1963. His address at the time of employment was 757 French Street.

ALVIN PRECHTER, Personnel Manager, William B. Reilly Coffee Company, 640 Magazine Street, New Orleans, advised on October 1, 1963, that subject terminated his employment on July 19, 1963.

Residence

Confidential Informant NO T-1 advised on July 23, 1963, that Post Office Box 30061 was rented by L. H. OSWALD on June 3, 1963. He furnished as his address 557 French Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. T-1 advised on October 25, 1963, that the subject sent a forwarding address for P. O. Box 30061 on September 26, 1963, of 2515 West Fifth Street, Irving, Texas.



OPPOSITE:

Here's some evidence disputing Oswald's Communist leanings. Informant T-2, "who is cognizant of some CP activities in the New Orleans area advised that T-2 is not acquainted with OSWALD or his wife and has no knowledge of any activities on the part of subject organization [FPCC] in New Orleans." Also, "The city directory in New Orleans contained no record of the name A.J. Hidell." This document also shows there was no one listed by that name by the city's credit bureau.

TOP:

Background I.D. on Oswald. Note also reference to the forwarding address at P.O. Box 30061.

BOTTOM:

More doubt about Oswald's Communist leanings: "Informant TD-1 who is familiar with Cuban activities in the New Orleans area advised that Oswald was unknown to the informant." And, "Frank Bartes, who is a delegate to the Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans, advised that Oswald was unknown to him."

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Confidential Informant NO T-1 who is familiar with Cuban activities in the New Orleans area advised on September 9, 1963, that Oswald was unknown to the informant.

Frank Bartes, 1509 Pines Smith Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, who is a delegate to the Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans, advised on September 10, 1963, that Oswald was unknown to him.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



URGENT 11-25-63 3-18 AM FEB

TO DIRECTOR AND SAC, DALLAS

FROM SAC, DETROIT

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, NOV. TWENTY TWO LAST,
DALLAS, TEXAS.

AT ELEVEN PM, ELEVEN TWENTY FOUR LAST MRS. ROBERT BURRETT,
TRAVERSE CITY, MICH: TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THAT SHE WAS WATCHING
A CBS TELEVISION BROADCAST OF A MOVIE IN WHICH LEE H. OSWALD WAS
PASSING OUT LITERATURE ON A STREET CORNER IN NEW ORLEANS. SHE THEN
SWITCHED TO CHANNEL NINE, A LOCAL TRAVERSE CITY STATION, AND WATCHED
AN INTERVIEW WITH A BAIL BONDSMAN WHO IS A FRIEND OF JACK RUBY
AND WHO IS ATTEMPTING TO RAISE BAIL FOR RUBY. SHE STATED THAT THIS
BAIL BONDSMAN, NAME UNKNOWN, IS THE SAME PERSON SHE SAW IN THE
FIRST PROGRAM ACCEPTING SOME LITERATURE FROM OSWALD. SHE ADVISED
SHE WAS FURNISHING THE ABOVE INFO IN THE EVENT THAT THE ABOVE
BAIL BONDSMAN IS CONNECTED WITH OSWALD AND RUBY.

ABOVE FOR INFO OF BUREAU AND DALLAS.

~~CORR PLS LINE NINE WORD TWELVE SHL BE "THAT"~~

END AND ACK PLS

WA 3-23 AM OK FBI WA HFL

2-23 AM OK FBI CG DHM

TU CLEAR M

NOV 27 1963

(C. Sullivan)
5:55
6-13

NOT RECORDED
145 NOV 28 1963

UNREC

5-11-63

97

CD 642 DBA 55777

18p

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: IANS, New Orleans

Report of: SA WARREN C. DE BRUEYS Office: NEW ORLEANS
Date: October 25, 1963

Field Office File No.: 97-74 Bureau File No.: 97-4196-33

Title: ① FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE - NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

Character: REGISTRATION ACT - CUBA; INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

Classification: MICROFILMED NOV 14 1963 DOC. MICRO. SER.

Summary: Information from NOPD on 8/9/63 revealed that LEE H. OSWALD was arrested on that date for disturbing the peace along with three other Cubans who had objected to OSWALD's distribution of FPCC literature. OSWALD fined \$10.00 or 10 days on 8/12/63 in Municipal Court, New Orleans. OSWALD reported to have distributed FPCC literature in New Orleans 8/16/63 along with another unknown white male. OSWALD appeared on a radio program on 8/21/63 in a debate against two anti-Castro persons at which time OSWALD denied that FPCC is Communist controlled and he admitted he personally was a Marxist. OSWALD reported to have moved from New Orleans on 8/25/63 and believed to have returned to Texas. FPCC handbills distributed by OSWALD bore name of "A. J. Hidell, P. O. Box 30016", which box was determined to be nonexistent. Cuban sources at New Orleans have no pertinent information regarding anyone named HIDELE and there is no record of any such name in the New Orleans directory or from credit sources. No activity of subject organization observed since 8/16/63.

INDEX P

DETAILS: Investigation of subject organization at New Orleans was instituted on the basis of information received on August 9, 1963, from Lieutenant WILLIAM GAILLOT, First District, New Orleans Police Department, that the following persons had been arrested on Canal and Baronne Streets in New Orleans:

CS COPY F 7

FRANK MACARTO

(RECORDED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES)

NO 97-74

Patrolmen F. HAYWARD and F. WILSON of the First District. He was charged with "disturbing the peace by creating a scene". The records showed that OSWALD claimed to be a member of the "Fair Play For Cuba Committee" and was passing out circulars in the 700 block of Canal Street and became involved in an argument with three Cuban immigrants.

On August 16, 1963, two persons, one of which is believed identical with OSWALD who identified themselves as being connected with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC), distributed pamphlets in front of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans. They remained in that location for only a few moments and departed.

On August 19, 1963, Mr. JESSE CORE, International Trade Mart, advised that the two parties who were distributing handbills for the FPCC as set forth above were described as follows:

One was white male, 145 pounds, 5'9", age 32 or 33, pallid complexion, and black hair. The second one was described as age 22 or 23, 6', black hair, narrow shoulders and broad waist.

JOSEPH LESLIE, Office of the Clerk of Court, Municipal Court, 501 North Rampart Street, advised on August 28, 1963, that OSWALD appeared before Second Municipal Court Judge EDWIN A. BAYLON on August 12, 1963, and entered a plea of guilty to the charge of disturbing the peace by creating a scene and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$10.00 or serve ten days in jail. OSWALD elected to pay the fine. Mr. LESLIE advised that the three persons arrested with OSWALD were discharged.

It was previously determined on August 5, 1963, from Mrs. JESSIE JAMES GARNER, 4909 Magazine Street, New Orleans, that LEE HARVEY OSWALD and his wife, MARINA NIKOLAEVNA OSWALD, have resided at 4909 Magazine Street since June, 1963.

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OPPOSITE:
An interesting piece of information on the pamphleteering: Apparently Oswald had pamphleted a friend of Jack Ruby, the man who would later kill him.

TOP:
This Department of Justice document reviews the information about Oswald's FPCC activities. Note, "FPCC handbills distributed by OSWALD bore name of 'A. J. Hidell, P.O. Box 30016', which box was determined to be nonexistent. Cuban sources at New Orleans have no pertinent information regarding anyone named HIDELE."

BOTTOM:
More on the arrest for pamphleteering. Note height discrepancy for Oswald. Elsewhere he's 5 feet, 11 inches. Also of interest, the advisory about the leafleting was provided by a Jesse Core of the International Trade Mart, the same place where Clay Shaw worked. Shaw was later investigated by Jim Garrison for his part in the Kennedy assassination.



Date 8/15/63

LEE HARVEY OSWALD was interviewed at the First District Station, New Orleans Police Department, at his request. OSWALD said that he had been picked up on August 9, 1963, by the New Orleans Police Department and was charged with disturbing the peace in the 700 block of Canal Street during the time he was distributing "Fair Play For Cuba Committee" literature.

OSWALD stated that he was unemployed at the present time, his last employment being terminated July 17, 1963, as a mechanic with the William B. Riley Company, 640 Magazine Street. He said he was born October 18, 1939, at New Orleans, Louisiana. He had attended Warren Easton High School in New Orleans until 1956 at which time he joined the United States Marine Corps. He had only completed two years of high school at this time. From 1956 through 1959, he was a member of the Marine Corps at which time he received an honorable discharge. Following his discharge he moved to Fort Worth, Texas, where he lived with his mother, MARGURITE OSWALD. He could not recall her address in Fort Worth, but remarked that she was living now in Arlington, Texas, and was a practical nurse by profession.

About four months ago he and his wife, MARINA OSWALD, nee Prossa, whom he met and married in Fort Worth, moved to New Orleans.

After coming to New Orleans he said he began reading various pieces of literature distributed by the "Fair Play For Cuba Committee", and it was his understanding from reading this material that the main goal and theme of the committee is to prevent the United States from invading or attacking Cuba or interfering in the political affairs of that country. Further, that the people of this country should be given an opportunity to go visit Cuba, and in this way they could make up their own minds as to what the internal conditions of Cuba are like at the present time. He says he does not consider the "Fair Play For Cuba Committee" to be communist or a communist-controlled group. OSWALD said that inquiry in New Orleans developed the fact that there apparently was a chapter of the

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On 8/10/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # 97-74
by SA JOHN LESTER QUIGLEY /cv/dmk Date dictated 8/15/63

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2

"Fair Play For Cuba Committee" in New Orleans, but he did not know any of the members or where their offices were located. He said he sent a letter to the headquarters of the "Fair Play for Cuba Committee", 798 Broadway, New York City, together with \$5.00 and told them he wished to join this committee. During the latter part of May of this year he received a membership card in this organization which bore a date of May 28, 1963, and was made out in the name of LEE H. OSWALD and was signed by V. L. LEE. He described this card as being gray in color and signifying membership in the national organization. A short time thereafter he said he received in the mail a white card which showed that he was made a member of the New Orleans Chapter of the Fair Play For Cuba Committee. This card was dated June 8, 1963. It was signed by A. J. HIDEEL, and it bore in the lower right hand corner the number 33 which he said indicated membership number. OSWALD had in his possession both cards and exhibited both of them.

Since becoming a member of the national committee, OSWALD said that he has been receiving the monthly circular of the committee which is about seven pages in length. He claimed that he could not recall the name of this publication.

Since receiving his membership card in the New Orleans Chapter of the committee he said that he had spoken with HIDEEL on the telephone on several occasions. On these occasions, HIDEEL would discuss general matters of mutual interest in connection with committee business, and on other occasions he would inform him of a scheduled meeting. He said he has never personally met HIDEEL, and he knows HIDEEL did have a telephone, but it has now been discontinued. He claimed that he could not recall what the number was.

OSWALD said that the committee did not have any offices in New Orleans, and whenever meetings were held they were held in residences of various members. He maintained that he had attended only two meetings of this committee, and at each of the meetings there were about five different individuals. At each of these meetings the

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persons present were different. He did not know the last names of any of these individuals and claimed he was only introduced to them by first names. He maintained that he could not recall any of the first names. From what he understands there are no regularly scheduled times for meetings, and the only way he knows about them is when somebody gives him a call and tells him there will be a meeting. At these meetings he said the general conversation deals with Cuba and the latest news on the internal affairs of Cuba. OSWALD admitted that on one occasion he held a committee meeting at his home, but he declined to elaborate on how he got word to the various members that it would be held.

Last Wednesday, August 7, 1963, OSWALD said he received a note through the mail from HIDEEL. The note asked him if he had time would he mind distributing some Fair Play literature in the downtown area of New Orleans. He said HIDEEL knew that he was not working and probably had time. HIDEEL also knew that he had considerable literature on the committee which had been furnished to him by the national committee in New York. Since he did not have anything to do, OSWALD said he decided he would go down to Canal Street and distribute some literature. He denied that he was being paid for his services, but that he was doing it as a patriotic duty.

About one P.M. on August 9, 1963, OSWALD said that he went down on Canal Street by himself and started distributed committee literature. He said he had made up a placard which he hung around his neck with a piece of string. The placard was made up of brown cardboard. On the placard were several pieces of literature which expressed the aims and purposes of the committee. At the bottom of the cardboard placard he said he had printed in black capital letters the words "Viva FIDEL". From this time until around four P.M. he said he distributed a throwaway with was prepared on yellow paper, 6" x 9".

OPPOSITE:

Background on the FPCC. "He [Oswald] says he does not consider the 'Fair Play For Cuba Committee' to be communist or a communistic-controlled group."

TOP:

Oswald claims to have spoken with the Hidell person on the telephone. "He said he has never personally met HIDEEL, and he knows HIDEEL did have a telephone, but it has now been discontinued. He claimed that he could not recall what the number was."

BOTTOM:

According to the memo, "The note [from Hidell] asked him if he had time would he mind distributing some Fair Play literature in the downtown area of New Orleans... Since he did not have anything to do, OSWALD said he decided he would go down to Canal Street and distribute some literature." While some assassination theorists have posited that the FPCC was a dummy organization with no real members, Oswald supposedly held local meetings where Cuba was discussed. Oswald said he'd even had a meeting in his own home, but declined to say who was there or how he contacted other members of the organization. There are also details about how the pamphlet distribution scheme evolved.

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in size, which contained the following: "Hands Off Cuba! Join The Fair Play For Cuba Committee, New Orleans, Charter Member Branch, Free Literature, Lectures, Location: A. J. HIDEELL, P. O. Box 30016, New Orleans, Louisiana, Everybody Welcome!" In addition, OSWALD said he had on his person membership applications which he would pass out to anyone he thought desired one. This membership application was prepared on a white piece of paper 3½" wide by 8½" in length, and it contained the following information:

"To: The Fair Play for Cuba Committee A. J. HIDEELL
New Orleans, La. P. O. Box 30016
New Orleans, La.

_____ I wish to join the Committee. Enclosed is my Initiation Fee of \$1.00 and dues are \$1.00 a month.

_____ I cannot participate as an active member of the Committee, but wish to become a subscriber to mailings. Enclosed find \$5.00 for one year.

_____ I would like to have a more active part in supporting the cause of FPCC. Enclosed is my contribution for _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____"

OSWALD stated in addition to this he had on his person several copies of a thirty-nine page pamphlet entitled "The Crime Against Cuba" by CORLISS LAMONT, which he carried with him as it contained all of the information regarding the committee, and he would be in a position to refer to it for proper answers in the event someone questioned him regarding the aims and purposes of the committee.

NO 97-74
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OSWALD had in his possession at the time of interview a copy of the above three described documents and made available a copy of each to the Agent.

Around 4 P.M. while standing in the immediate vicinity of Wilgreen's Drug Store at Canal and Baronne Streets, OSWALD said three Cubans approached him, and he gave each one of the above-described throwaways. These individuals became very angry, tore up the throwaways, threw them down on the sidewalk and began arguing with him. This created quite a disturbance and shortly thereafter the police arrived, and he, as well as the other individuals whom he understood to be Cuban exiles, was arrested.

OSWALD said it was his understanding that around one P.M. on August 12, 1963, he was to be taken into City Court, New Orleans, and charged with disturbing the peace.

For further identification OSWALD exhibited a U. S. Marine Corps, Inactive Reserve, IV-S, Identification Card, which showed that LEE HARVEY OSWALD, USI, Serial Number 1653230, had served on active duty from period of October 24, 1956 to September 11, 1959. This ID card had been signed by Lieutenant A. G. AYERS, USMC.

From observation and questioning, OSWALD is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	23
Date of Birth	October 18, 1939
Place of Birth	New Orleans, Louisiana (at time of arrest claimed from Cuba)
Height	5'9"
Weight	140 pounds
Build	Slender
Hair	Light brown
Eyes	Blue-hazel

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OPPOSITE:

Transcript of the membership application to the FPCC, again bearing Hidell's perhaps fictitious P.O. Box number.

TOP:

The specifics of the altercation are detailed here: "Three Cubans approached him, and he gave each one of the above-described throwaways. These individuals became very angry, tore up the throwaways, threw them down on the sidewalk and began arguing with him. This created quite a disturbance and shortly thereafter the police arrived, and he, as well as the other individuals whom he understood to be Cuban exiles, was arrested."

BOTTOM:

More on the FPCC. Note the interesting aside in paragraph three: "A source advised that during the first two years of the FPCC's existence there was a struggle between Communist Party (CP) and Socialist Workers Party (SWP) elements to exert their power within the FPCC."

NO 100-16601/cv

APPENDIX

"THE WORKER"

"The Worker" is an east coast Communist publication.

FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE

The April 6, 1960, edition of "The New York Times" newspaper contained a full-page advertisement captioned "What Is Really Happening in Cuba," placed by the Fair Play For Cuba Committee (FPCC). This advertisement announced the formation of the FPCC in New York City and declared the FPCC intended to promulgate "the truth about revolutionary Cuba" to neutralize the distorted American press.

"The New York Times" edition of January 11, 1961, reported that at a hearing conducted before the United States Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on January 10, 1961, Dr. CHARLES A. SANTOS-BUCH identified himself and ROBERT TABER as organizers of the FPCC. He also testified he and TABER obtained funds from the Cuban Government which were applied toward the cost of the aforementioned advertisement.

"On May 16, 1963, a source advised that during the first two years of the FPCC's existence there was a struggle between Communist Party (CP) and Socialist Workers Party (SWP) elements to exert their power within the FPCC and thereby influence FPCC policy. However, during the past year this source observed there has been a successful effort by FPCC leadership to minimize the role of these and other organizations in the FPCC so that today their influence is negligible.

On May 20, 1963, a second source advised that the National Headquarters of the FPCC is located in Room 329 at 799 Broadway, New York City. According to this source, the position of National Office Director was created in the fall of 1962 and was filled by VINCENT "TED" LEE, who now formulates FPCC policy. This source observed LEE has followed a course of entangling and accepting the cooperation of many other organizations including the CP and the SWP when he has felt it would be to his personal benefit as well as the FPCC's. How-

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APPENDIX

NO 97-74

The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, Louisiana, on August 13, 1963, contained the following news article:

"Pamphlet Case
Sentence Given

"Lee Oswald, 23, 4907 Magazine, Monday was sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 or serve 10 days in jail on a charge of disturbing the peace by creating a scene.

"Oswald was arrested by First District police at 4:15 p.m. Friday in the 700 block of Canal while he was reportedly distributing pamphlets asking for a "Fair Play for Cuba".

"Police were called to the scene when three Cubans reportedly sought to stop Oswald. Municipal charges against the Cubans for disturbing the peace were dropped by the court."

Confidential source familiar with Cuban activities in the New Orleans area were contacted during the month of September, 1963 and each advised he had no knowledge regarding OSWALD or any of the activities of subject organization in New Orleans, except the information regarding OSWALD's arrest and distribution of FPCC handbills.

Mrs. JESSIE JAMES GARNER, 4909 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised on October 1, 1963 that Mr. and Mrs. OSWALD vacated their apartment on September 25, 1963. Mrs. OSWALD and young child left in station wagon bearing Texas license plate driven by same woman who brought Mrs. OSWALD to New Orleans from Texas. LEE OSWALD told Mrs. GARNER that his wife is going to have a baby and that she was going to Texas for the event. She said OSWALD left owing her 17 days rent for apartment.



OPPOSITE:

The Times-Picayune item detailing the pamphlet case. Note the afterword, "Confidential source familiar with Cuban activities in the New Orleans area were contacted... and each advised he had no knowledge regarding OSWALD or any of the activities of subject organization in New Orleans..."

THIS PAGE:

Oswald pamphleteering in New Orleans.

ADDENDUM:

According to Jim Garrison, the office where Oswald kept his pro-Castro pamphlets was also regularly used by anti-Castro Cubans, which would be truly bizarre. As Garrison has written, "Anti-Castro Cubans, many... wearing combat garb and boots, regularly tramped up the stairs... And, as if all of this was not enough, the Secret Service and Naval Intelligence agents across the street must have grown bored witnessing the movement of ammunition boxes to and from Banister's office [that] had been collected for the secret war against Cuba." Garrison posits that the government was well aware of the activities at the pamphlet office, and knew fully well that Oswald, dupe or not, was on their side.