

THE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

January 23, 1964

Dear Mr. Rankin:

I have now received and send you herewith two communications from the Bureau of Customs in Laredo, Texas, dated January 8 and 13, 1964. The latter one contains such information as has become available to Customs concerning Oswald's entry into Mexico and his subsequent reentry into the United States, while the other communication discusses what records are and are not kept in connection with such border crossings.

Sincerely,



G. d'Andelot Belin
General Counsel

J. Lee Rankin, Esquire
General Counsel, President's Commission
on the Assassination of President Kennedy
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C. 20002

Enclosures

R73-COR. 8

JAN 27 1964

Mr. J. Donald Bell
General Counsel
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.
Mr. J. Bell

Thank you for your letter of January 23,
1964, enclosing two copies of the Bureau of
Finance & Accounts, dated January 6 and 13, 1964.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Dinkin
General Counsel

Enc. 4/5 + 4/12



TREASURY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
LAREDO, TEXAS

Involved in ... and Organization
Gswaid, Lee-H. Post-Russian Period



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Other
Lester D. Johnson

January 8, 1964
L 22-011

Mr. Lester D. Johnson
Assistant Commissioner of Customs
Bureau of Customs
Washington, D. C., 20226

Dear Sir:

The following information is furnished pursuant to our telephone conversation of January 7.

When any person departs from the United States for Mexico, there is no record made of his departure except in the following instances:

1. An alien delivers his form I-94 or related immigration documents to an immigrant inspector upon his departure.
2. A narcotic violator or user registers with a customs officer as required by 18 USC 1407.

Normally the volume of departures through most of the Mexican border ports would make the maintaining of departure records prohibitive.

There are no records maintained of persons entering the United States except in the following instances:

1. The U. S. Public Health Service vaccinates an entrant into the United States for smallpox; he signs a general log maintained by that service and is issued a certificate of vaccination valid for three years. However, if he has a valid certificate of vaccination, there is no record made of his entry.
2. The U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service has a record of persons referred to that service for the issuance of entry documents.

REPLY TO: CUSTOMS AGENT IN CHARGE, P.O. BOX 498, LAREDO, TEXAS, 78041

R73-COR. 8

3. The U. S. Customs Service has a record of those persons making a written declaration or those found in violation of customs laws or involved in other customs proceedings.

4. A record is made of all persons entering the United States from Mexico by private aircraft.

The Mexican Government maintains no records of entry into Mexico from the United States except in the following instances:

1. A United States citizen or other alien to Mexico proceeding to the interior of Mexico must obtain a Mexican temporary immigration visa.

2. The owner or operator of a vehicle or aircraft entering Mexico must obtain a temporary entry permit.

A person could make numerous entries into and departures from the United States each day on the Mexican border and never become of record.

Mr. Kline will return to this office within a few days and will furnish you the memorandum you requested relating to Lee Harvey Oswald.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) ORAN G. PUGH

Oran G. Pugh
Actg. Customs Agent in Charge

cc: SCA, Houston
OGPugh:mll

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
LAREDO, TEXASJanuary 13, 1964
REFER TO

L 22-811

Mr. Lester D. Johnson
Assistant Commissioner of Customs
Bureau of Customs
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to our telephone conversation of November 13, 1963, concerning the trip into Mexico made by Lee Harvey Oswald.

On November 23, 1963, I made inquiry of the Chief Immigration Officer, Mexican Immigration Service, Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, concerning Oswald's entry into Mexico and his subsequent return to the United States. I was informed that Mexican authorities considered this an investigation and since this information was not being furnished to any federal agency, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I was further informed that the information would have to be obtained through the American Consulate.

I contacted the American Consulate in Nuevo Laredo, Mr. Harvey Cash, and he obtained Mexican immigration records, which disclosed that Oswald entered Mexico on September 26, 1963, at Laredo and departed Mexico at the same port on October 3, 1963. While I actually saw the records, I was not able to study them in any detail because of the policy of the Mexican immigration authorities, but it is my understanding that the records contained little information other than the dates of Oswald's visit to Mexico.

Mr. Cash told me that the records did not show whether or not Oswald was accompanied by anyone or by what means he was traveling. Mr. Cash also told me that a detailed report with more specific information had been furnished various United States Government agencies investigating the President's assassination by the office of the

REPLY TO: CUSTOMS AGENT IN CHARGE, P.O. BOX 498, LAREDO, TEXAS, 78041

R73-COR; 8

American Ambassador in Mexico City.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WILLIAM M. KLINE

William M. Kline
Asst. Customs Agent in Charge

Approved:

(Signed) ORAN G. PUGH

Oran G. Pugh
Acting Customs Agent in Charge

cc: SCA, Houston

W.Kline:mg1