

While not essential this is appropriate for inclusion in all the manuscripts I've prepared relating to books that go into the Mexico City mysteries. Off the top of the head I believe this would be Riebling, Hosty, Newman and Brown at the least, with Taffler probable.

By early <sup>July 1964</sup> which was after the report had been scheduled to appear, the CIA decided to level with the Commission but by then it was not possible to correct what it had done, perhaps accomplished, in spreading the word that Oswald had "met" with Kostikov, the <sup>alleged</sup> ~~the~~ KGB "wet jobs" expert.

Under the date of July 2, 1964, Richard Helms, then deputy director for plans, meaning dirty tricks, wrote Rankin quoting two "reliable" sources as saying it was Yatskov to whom Oswald spoke, not Kostikov.

One does not appear to have been an electronic source. One may have been <sup>an electronic source</sup>. That ~~may~~ <sup>could</sup> have been the reason for the "sensitive sources and methods" notice stamped on this record. It was filed as CD 1216 by the Commission. The "Classification Cancelled" notice is <sup>dated</sup> ~~dated~~ 12/22/73. Harrison H. Johnson of the Archives staff <sup>dated</sup> ~~dated~~ his cancellation of that notice as of January 11, 1973

Helms told Rankin that the CIA had informed the FBI about this, too.

If any of the many who have sought to use this Kostikov business to their own ends ever mentioned this I do not recall it. Particularly am I confident that the FBI's James Patrick Hosty, Jr., did not while misusing the misinformation in a manner that could have heated the cold war up.

Dark Riebling did not in his Wedge otherwise he could not have written <sup>his</sup> ~~the~~ fiction in the form of nonfiction, that the FBI's refusal to go for the CIA's Mexico City line drove a "wedge" <sup>between</sup> those agencies that resulted in the assassination.

More than two decades after declassification that eminent scholar Max Holland <sup>change his line to make it</sup> found the Commission was right when it was wrong and that that was a good thing, so he ~~did not~~ correct this and there is no reason to believe he will ~~weaken what he says~~ in his book on the Commission due in 1996 by making any such correction now. He can't and still have his book.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

Commission No. 1216

2 JUL 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
President's Commission on the  
Assassination of President Kennedy

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey Oswald

1. The following remarks have been recently attributed to Soviet Consul Pavel Antonovich Yatskov in Mexico City regarding the subject.

"I met Oswald here. He stormed into my office and wanted me to introduce and recommend him to the Cubans. He told me that he had lived in the USSR. I told him that I would have to check before I could recommend him. He was nervous and his hands trembled, and he stormed out of my office. I don't believe that a person as nervous as Oswald, whose hands trembled could have accurately fired a rifle."

2. [redacted] has checked its records for the period Oswald was in Mexico City and has advised it is quite possible that Oswald thought he had talked with Valeriy Kostikov when he actually had spoken to Yatskov; or that he first spoke to Kostikov who turned him over to his superior Yatskov.

3. The source of the above information is a confidential contact [redacted] who is believed to be reliable. In view of this relationship, an appropriate sensitivity indicator has been affixed to this memorandum.

Rec'd + Forward  
JUL 3 1964

CLASSIFICATION CANCELED

By authority of: C. A. [redacted] 12/22/77

Name and title of person making the change: [redacted]

Date: 1/11/73

WARNING NOTICE  
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND  
METHODS INVOLVED

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

4. A copy of this memorandum has been forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

*Richard Helms*

Richard Helms  
Deputy Director for Plans

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED  
By authority of: *C. J. ...*, 12/22/72

Name and title of person making the change: *H. N. G.*  
Date: *1/11/73*

~~WARNING NOTICE  
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND  
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