

JIR:JL:JA  
JLW:JLW:AL (dated 5/18/64)

5/19/64

Mr. Richard Holst  
Casey Building 4th Floor  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Holst:

The Commission wishes to consider the possibility that during his stay in the Soviet Union Lee Harvey Oswald may have received medical or psychological treatment or conditioning designed to reinforce or exacerbate his inherent hostility to authority and thereby render him a disruptive factor in this country after his return.

We think that a study of the latest Soviet techniques in mind conditioning and so-called "brainwashing" would be helpful in this regard. We would greatly appreciate your making such materials as you may have on that subject available to Mr. Wesley J. Liebeler of our staff. Perhaps a conference on this subject between appropriate members of your organization and members of our staff would be desirable.

Your cooperative cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel

cc: Mr. Rankin  
Mr. Williams  
Mr. Liebeler

R73-COR. 41

May 22, 1954

WDS:mfd:20May

Mr. Richard Helms  
Deputy Director For Plans  
Central Intelligence Agency  
McLean, Virginia

Dear Mr. Helms:

The Commission has just received certain of the materials which it requested of the Russian Government on March 24, 1954. I am enclosing herewith two copies each of the documents received from the Russian Government and one copy of the translations of the same. The only documents which the Commission has not yet received from the Department of State which were handed to the Department by the Government of Russia are the documents entitled "Medical Documents." These will be forwarded to you as soon as the Commission receives them.

Any comments which the Central Intelligence Agency cares to make on the enclosed documents will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel

Enclosures (15)

cc: Mr. Rankin's Chron File  
Mail Room Files  
Mr. Coleman  
Mr. Slawson

R73-COR.42

JLR:WDS:mfd 5/21/64  
RET: JLR:HPW:al 5/22/64

MAY 25 1964

Mr. Richard Helms  
Deputy Director for Plans  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Helms:

In connection with some discussions recently had with Mr. Abram Chayes, the Legal Adviser to the Department of State, Mr. Chayes has informed the Commission that members of the Department of State have informed him that at the time Lee Harvey Oswald received his tourist visa to enter Russia from the Soviet Embassy at Helsinki, Finland, at least a week ordinarily transpired between the time when the tourist applied for his visa and the issuance of that visa. If this is true, then the fact that Lee Harvey Oswald obtained his tourist visa in from two to four days may have some significance.

From material previously supplied to the Commission by the Central Intelligence Agency we have concluded that Oswald arrived in Helsinki on an airplane from London on October 10, 1959, that his Soviet tourist visa was issued from the Embassy in Helsinki on October 14, and that he departed for Moscow on a train on October 15. Assuming that he applied for a visa the same day he arrived in Helsinki, four days were required for him to obtain the visa. If, however, his airplane arrived too late on October 10 for him to reach the Soviet Embassy and apply for a visa that same day, he probably would have had to wait until Monday, October 12, to tender his application. We have no information on the probable time of arrival of his flight or the closing time of the Embassy, so we cannot estimate whether he had sufficient time to get from the airport to the Embassy before it closed on Saturday, October 10.

cc: Mr. Rankin  
Mr. Willens  
Mr. Slawson

R73-COR. 43

We have already asked that the Department of State look further into this matter and give us its best opinion regarding the average time required to obtain a Soviet tourist visa from Helsinki in October 1959 and also the regularity or lack of regularity evidenced by the Soviet Embassy in this regard. We are of course interested in the question of the regularity of procedures because we want to know whether, if Oswald did in fact obtain his visa more quickly than was normal, his doing so was significant, or whether it may have been only the result of a not-infrequent deviation from normal procedures.

If it is still possible at this time to determine the approximate hour on October 10, 1959 when Oswald's flight arrived in Helsinki and the hour when the Soviet Embassy closed, this information, plus an estimate of the time required to travel from the airport to the Embassy by commercial transportation, would also be of assistance to the Commission.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel