

Dear George, *Lardner*

11/18/83

Although by the time you can receive this you may have no further interest in Oswald's security clearance or Jean Davison, I want to make a few notes for myself for the future so I inform you in the event you have future interest.

I was not able to check HSCA's report until last night. I then found that it also resorts to a straw man, Anson's book, which in turn seems to come from Peter Dale/ Scott's approach. Anson is imprecise, but HSCA, and particularly a number of its staffers, were well aware of an earlier and precise formulation. Anson says that Oswald was cleared for secret at Atsugi and leaves it at that, citing Donovan, who said nothing at all about Atsugi. (Anson's notes are not to the official copy of the Warren Report so I was not able to check them.) HSCA merely states that it looked at the records of five other Marines who were in the US or ~~abroad~~ abroad with Oswald and none of them were cleared above confidential. This, of course, is no trick at all, for two reasons:

Only 5 of the 100 men in MACS-1 required higher clearance, so HSCA had only 1-20 chances of hitting one. Moreover, with the obvious defects in Oswald's records, there was no reason to believe that the identical defects would not be duplicated in the others.

HSCA made no investigation at all. It resorted to a trick. In this, as in all else, it makes clear that its real purpose was to put down all the critics.

I checked the sources referred to by HSCA. One quotes the other so the flaws in the first are faithfully duplicated. HSCA stayed far away from all the other testimony, which Anson did not cite, which is all entirely consistent in stating that Oswald had at least a Secret clearance.

All that I read in this checking confirms my 1966 source perfectly. For example, on chess, Dan Powers (who was with Oswald, ~~Max~~ Schrand and the three others from Padar fundamentals training at Jackson, advanced training at Keesler, and in MACS-1) testified that he and Oswald ~~ix~~ played chess for 4-8 hours at a time.

I told you that I could not recall my source but I seemed to remember, after 19 years, that Oswald had been part of two CIA operations against Sukarno. Powers confirms this and says that they were at Cubi point in between the two. They were there for six months, yet there is no such entry on any of Oswald's personnel records or other records of assignment. Not even on his pay records. Thus it appears that whether or not entirely correct, there is no time in Oswald's overseas assignments when he was not in some kind of association with the CIA (which had bases at Atsugi and Cubi). And strangely - at least for the Oswald of the official portrayal - there is not a word - not even an inkling - of this in any of his writings or as reported by anyone after any conversation with him. Yet both QC and HSCA knew he was at Cubi. In his writings (CE93, 16H337), he says he was station "at subic bay" (sic) from 12/57 to 5/58.

In questioning Powers Jenner was well aware of and referred to Operation Strongback, so both WC and HSCA were well aware of that and the earlier Indonesian operation.

Oswald's "Record of Service" (19H658-9 has no reference to Biloxi. In its place is "CASCO HQBN HQMC." I presume the last two mean headquarters battalion, Headquarters, Marine Corps, and although it may be only ~~more~~ bureaucratic, one of the remarkably few remaining Biloxi records states that on completion of that training he was assigned to ^H Marines HQ in Washington. He actually went west then, with a leave first.

(I see that Powers dated the earlier anti-Sukarno operation at "early November" 1957 (8H279).

All of what I've told you comes from the published WC records except for the Schrand inquest, which is referred to in them, and what my source told me, which was published and could not be avoided in any real research. So much for Davison. Best wishes,