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OSWALD - VIOLENCE: WALKER, HOSTY

Like the Commission, Ms. Davison has the need to portray Oswald as prone to violence and like the Commission she says that Oswald made "his attempt on" right-wing retired General Edwin Walker because, to Oswald, "Walker was another Hitler." (102)

However, the Warren Commission material is quite explicit on the police identification of the bullet used in that shooting and it was much larger than Oswald's and could not be fired from his rifle. Moreover, the FBI's scientific testing of it, disclosed in that third of a million pages of records that do not exist in Ms. Davison's book, proves beyond question that it was not an Oswald bullet.

On the other hand, where she had a real case of Oswald's tendency toward violence, Ms. Davison elects to cover up for both the Commission and the FBI.

James P. Hosty, Jr., was the FBI's Oswald case agent in Dallas. His preassassination reports state that Oswald beat his wife Marina up. But when he testified to the Commission, which had his reports, he swore to the opposite, that the FBI had no reason to believe that Oswald had any tendency toward violence, and the Commission ignored his false swearing.

What the Commission did not know, because the FBI suppressed it until it was leaked by others in the Dallas FBI office in 1975, is that Oswald had actually threatened to bomb the FBI's Dallas office and the Dallas police department.

About two weeks before the assassination Oswald went to the FBI with an unsealed envelope addressed to Hosty. Ms. Davison's version (195) is that Oswald gave it to "Hosty's receptionist, Nancy Lee Fenner" - who was not Hosty's receptionist. He had none. And instead of quoting the readily available FBI

Inspector General's investigation, Ms. Davison says merely that, on orders of his boss, Special Agent in Charge Gordon Shanklin, "after Oswald's death" Hosty destroyed Oswald's note. She even tries to justify this by saying, "Shanklin was evidently concerned that the note would suggest that the FBI had not kept a careful enough eye on the president's assassin."

Rather than Oswald's note not having been read because it was folded, Ms. Davison's version, it was read and it was widely known and discussed within the Dallas FBI office, which did report it to ^{FBI} _A headquarters. Instead of reporting like a writer of nonfiction, Ms. Davison opines that any threat from Oswald was "unlikely" because "Hosty said the note was folded so that the writing could not be seen." There isn't time for an account of the entire FBI 1975 internal investigation, in which quite a few Dallas employees testified consistently with Mrs. Fenner, so I quote her sworn statement: "The envelope was not sealed and the note was partially sticking out from the envelope. Accordingly, I pulled it out and it said, 'Let this be a warning. I will blow up the FBI and the Dallas Police Department if you don't stop bothering my wife. Lee Harvey Oswald.'" She also testified that she was ordered to forget all about this note.

The FBI's game was covering itself because its only explanation for not telling the Dallas police about Oswald's presence and record is Hosty's ex post facto perjury, that there was no reason to suspect he was capable of any violence. But Oswald's preassassination note says the exact opposite, and the FBI did not tell the police, which seems to be quite remarkable. In addition, the FBI did not tell the Commission, it warned Hosty not to volunteer anything, and during the investigation of the assassination it destroyed Oswald's threat.

CUBA MISSILE CRISIS

Oswald's main game, according to Ms. Davison, was to assassinate JFK for Castro. To make this appear credible she first imagines that Oswald read an inconspicuous story in the papers and gave it the same interpretation she does. Then, to make it appear credible that Castro wanted JFK assassinated, she rewrites history that she lived through. She gives this solution to the Cuba Missile Crisis of 1962: "the confrontation ended on October 28, when the Soviet Union agreed to withdraw the missiles." (104) Wrong! That crisis ended earlier, when the United States publicly agreed to protect and defend Cuba against any invasion, something the USSR could not guarantee. Only after JFK's public guarantee, having refused until then, did Khrushchev remove his missiles.

There simply is no possibility at all that Castro would want his only real protector assassinated and there is no reason at all to believe he did - unless one rewrites history and omits basic, publicly and conspicuously reported facts.

HELSINKI

Another of Ms. Davison's omissions of what is in her own sources is in her account of how Oswald got to Moscow. (74) She says that on the same day Oswald reached Southampton, England, "he flew to Helsinki." What she omits and the Commission published is the CIA's investigation. It established that Oswald could not have reached Helsinki when he did by any public carrier. How he got there remains a mystery. Maybe an intelligence agency would solve this mystery.

OSWALD'S LITERATURE - JONES PRINTING

Because of the need of her preconception, of Oswald all alone, Ms. Davison required other omissions of what the Commission published. She and the Report both say that Oswald, using the name Osborne, had a leaflet printed at the Jones Printing Company. (125) Now, if by any chance she had missed the truth in the Commission's published appendix, if she had read my "Oswald in New Orleans," she would have known that in fact both of the people at the Jones Printing Company who had knowledge told the New Orleans FBI that it was not Oswald. She would have known that this was turned around at FBIHQ to make it appear that it was Oswald. I interviewed both, showed them a hundred-odd pictures, and each, independently, selected the same man and, independently, rejected all pictures of Oswald.

OSWALD'S MARKSMANSHIP

Having Oswald as a lone assassin requires that he shoot better than anyone, including the world's best shots, has been able to duplicate. It requires ignoring the official Marine Corps evaluation, that he was a "poor shot." Ms. Davison does this with ~~another~~^{one} of her special interpretations of Nelson Delgado's testimony. He reported that Oswald was a bad shot and wasn't interested in shooting, either. Of this she states, "The key element in this account is that Oswald wasn't enthusiastic and didn't give a darn." Or, was a good enough shot if he wanted to be. Delgado did not say or mean what she says. Interviewed by Manchester Guardian, he said, "he has always maintained that Oswald was an unlikely assassin and too poor a shot."

NEWMAN

Al Newman's book is one of Ms. Davison's favorite sources. She quotes him often and without question. The basis of Newman's similar conjecture, that Oswald killed JFK for Castro, is that Oswald listened to Cuban broadcasts on his Russian radio. Of course, he could have heard them on any radio, but Russian sounds so much more sinister. Well, those FBI records disclosed under FOIA that Ms. Davison ignores put an end to her favorite sycophantic author! Oswald's cheap Russian radio did not work.

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ANIMAL FARM

Oswald was an Orwellian, which is the opposite of being a Communist. His favorite book was Animal Farm, and this presented a problem Ms. Davison solved by her own interpretation of the recollection of the undereducated and unsophisticated Marine, Nelson Delgado. In her version, required by her preconception, "Oswald had read the book literally and obviously missed Orwell's point." (68) Yet one page later she uses the testimony of Thornley, who was not so naive and unsophisticated. In lucid testimony she ignores, Thornley described Oswald as fully comprehending what Orwell wrote and meant. Indeed, Thornley also testified that when he jokingly referred to Oswald as a ^{red} ~~read~~, Oswald had nothing more to do with him. Oswald's own writings - published by the Commission in the volumes Ms. Davison cites - are consistent with his clear understanding of Animal Farm. He called the Russians "fat, stinking politicians" and said that the American Communist Party was servile to Russia and had sold out American workers.