

Communist party, and *The Worker* telling them of his political work, and he would save their replies. He would write up the details of his work under such headings as Marxist, Street Agitation, Radio Speaker, and Lecturer. In the fall he would present this material when he applied for a Cuban visa in Mexico City. (We know this because the resume material was found among Oswald's belongings after the assassination, and an employee at the Cuban Embassy described some of these credentials to the Mexican police.)

What did Oswald hope to do after he got to Cuba? Certainly, he didn't expect to be given factory work or be sent to a Cuban equivalent of Minsk. Oswald had a rigid and willful personality, seemingly incapable of fundamental change; he kept repeating the same patterns over and over. Disappointed by his reception in Russia, he probably expected that the Cubans would recognize his abilities and give him the important assignment he thought he deserved.

It may be that he returned to the dream he had discussed with Nelson Delgado just four years before—becoming an officer in Castro's army to lead a revolution in another country. This was not as fantastic an ambition as it might seem. In 1963 it was illegal for Americans to travel to Cuba. But during March there had been a flurry in the press about a so-called "subversion airlift" flying between Mexico City and Havana. Some of these stories appeared in *Time*, a publication Oswald subscribed to (although it isn't known whether he saw them). On March 29, for instance, the magazine reported that there were twice-weekly flights from Mexico City and that, in 1962 alone, approximately 1500 Latin Americans and others had been taken to Cuba for "indoctrination and guerrilla warfare training." *Time* claimed that "thousands of students, small-time labor leaders, intellectuals and professional men" were getting "all-expense-paid tours" of Cuba and that many returned to their countries to become "terrorists, guerrillas, and Communist party workers." The article said that until February 15 "it was no trick to fly to Mexico, where the Cuban embassy issued a visa on a slip of paper. No telltale stamp marred the passports. Now the Mexicans stamp passports 'Salio a Cuba' in bold letters. But, of course, passports can be conveniently 'lost,' destroying the evidence." *Time* also noted that the airlift had figured prominently in the questions and answers at President Kennedy's press conference a week earlier.

During the summer a group of 58 students sponsored by the Fair Play for Cuba Committee defied the U.S. ban on travel to Cuba. President Kennedy publicly condemned their action, and the State

Department lifted their passports when they returned. In July Edwin E. Willis, the chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, gave a speech in New Orleans in which he charged that many of the travelers had Communist backgrounds and had returned to this country "to lecture on the glories of Castro's Cuba."

At some point Oswald considered hijacking a plane to Havana. He studied airline schedules and maps, and when Marina refused to go along with the scheme, he told her he would go ahead on his own. On July 30 the *Times-Picayune* covered the Cuban flights from Mexico City and noted, "Any American with a valid passport and a clean criminal record can enter Cuba via Mexico without State Department authorization provided he is acceptable to Cuban authorities and aerial transportation is available." After this—Marina thought it was in late August—Oswald burst into the apartment with the news that he had found a legal way to get to Cuba. According to McMillan, he told her, "There's a Cuban Embassy in Mexico. I'll go there. I'll show them my clippings, show them how much I've done for Cuba, and explain how hard it is to help in America. And how above all I want to help Cuba."

In late May Oswald's campaign to establish his pro-Castro credentials was just beginning. He was also trying to get Marina to answer a letter she had received from the Soviet Embassy in Washington in April, asking her to state her reasons for wanting to go back to the Soviet Union. On the same weekend that Oswald wrote the Fair Play for Cuba Committee asking for a charter, Marina sent a plaintive letter to Ruth (in Russian): "... As soon as you left all 'love' stopped, and I am very hurt that Lee's attitude towards me is such that I feel each minute that I bind him. He insists that I leave America, which I don't want to do at all. I like America very much and think that even without Lee I would not be lost here. What do you think. This is the basic question which doesn't leave me day or night."

Without waiting for a reply from the Committee, Oswald dropped by the Jones Printing Company opposite his workplace. Using the alias "Osborne," he ordered, for \$9.89, one thousand copies of a handbill reading:

HANDS OFF
CUBA!

B ut *h* n v i a
t h e F B I t h e
w h o w a t O s w a l d

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/3/63

LA
 DOUGLAS ~~X~~JONES, ~~X~~Jones Printing Company, 422 Girod, New Orleans
 advised after viewing the photograph of LEE OSWALD, that LA
 although he could not positively be sure, he said he did not
 believe the person ordering the printing of the handbills
 relating to Cuba last May 29th was OSWALD. He said to the
 best of his recollection the man ordering the handbills was a
 husky type person, on the order of a laborer. He said he
 remembered the person ordering the handbills did not have a
 Cuban accent and did not look like a Cuban to him and he
 therefore wondered why this person would be involved with the
 Cubans. He again stated that he could not positively say the
 person ordering the handbills was not OSWALD but he did not
 think it was. JONES said he could not furnish any other
 identifying data concerning the person ordering the handbills.

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 On 12/3/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69

by SA DONALD C. STEINMEYER/bap Date dictated 12/3/63

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