

Date 3/17/64

Mrs. PHILIP (ELIZABETH) EDGERTON was interviewed at her residence, 227 Locust Road, Fort Washington, Pa. She advised that she is in some way related to MICHAEL PAINE's mother's family, the FORBES family of Massachusetts, and has also considered herself a distant cousin of MICHAEL.

Mrs. EDGERTON stated her father was a doctor, who after World War II entered the Public Health Service and who moved to Philadelphia in approximately 1948 or 1949. She stated after graduating from high school she went away to college and returned to Philadelphia upon graduation in 1957. Mrs. EDGERTON stated it was around this time, 1956 or 1957, when Mrs. ARTHUR YOUNG began inviting her and her sister over to their Philadelphia residence on Delancey Street on various occasions for dinner. She stated she always felt that this was because she was of marriageable age and she felt that she and her sister were being displayed to MICHAEL PAINE, Mrs. YOUNG's son, and his brother, as potential aspirants for marriage.

Mrs. EDGERTON stated nothing developed of this other than a casual friendship and she stated she never met RUTH PAINE until shortly after her marriage to MICHAEL. She stated at this time a party was given for RUTH and MICHAEL PAINE by MICHAEL's mother, Mrs. YOUNG, at her Philadelphia residence. Mrs. EDGERTON stated both she and her husband attended this party.

Mrs. EDGERTON stated she is a school teacher as is RUTH PAINE and her husband is a Quaker as is RUTH PAINE and therefore they had some common ground for a friendship and visited together perhaps once a month or more from that time until MICHAEL and RUTH PAINE departed Philadelphia for the Dallas, Texas, area. Mrs. EDGERTON noted that during this time the PAINEs were residing in a barn in Paoli and that she and her husband were also residing in a barn in the same area. Mrs. EDGERTON stated that she and her husband left Philadelphia about the same time that the PAINEs did and have just returned. She stated therefore that in recent years their only contacts with the PAINEs have been through occasional letters once or twice a year and through birth announcements and similar items.

On 3/16/64 at Fort Washington, Pa. File # Philadelphia 105-9987
105-10004
by SAs MASON P. SMITH & JOHN R. WINEBERG/ld Date dictated 3/17/64

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Mrs. EDGERTON stated that RUTH PAINE has never mentioned the OSWALDs in her letters and she had no knowledge that RUTH or MICHAEL knew either LEE HARVEY or MARINA OSWALD until subsequent to the assassination of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963. She stated at first she was shocked to learn that RUTH knew the OSWALDs but then, upon reflection, decided that this would be particularly in keeping with the character of RUTH PAINE, both because of her knowledge of and interest in the Russian language and because of her genuine interest in helping people because of her active practice of the Quaker faith.

Mrs. EDGERTON, reflecting back on the situation, said the only thing unusual she noted was that RUTH PAINE's last few letters prior to the assassination, lacked a personal touch and generally referred to some current interest of RUTH PAINE such as the racial situation. In this regard, she noted that RUTH PAINE appeared to be especially interested in the problems of racial tension and in integration. She further noted that RUTH PAINE never mentioned her separation from MICHAEL PAINE in her letters and she had no knowledge of this until she read of it in the papers.

Mrs. EDGERTON described RUTH PAINE as a wonderful person who was outgoing, friendly, genuinely interested in the problems of others, a student of Russian, and a sincere Quaker. She described RUTH as similar to all deeply sincere Quakers in that she is an idealist.

Mrs. EDGERTON described MICHAEL PAINE as a somewhat reserved person, sincerely interested in development of helicopters and a person deeply concerned with trying to find himself and/or prove his mettle.

Mrs. EDGERTON stated that her husband PHILIP met RUTH and MICHAEL PAINE through her and his only contacts with the PAINEs were simultaneous with her contacts.

Mrs. EDGERTON stated both she and her husband felt that RUTH and MICHAEL PAINE were fine people and she had no reason to question their loyalty to this country or doubt their motives and any of their actions, including RUTH's inviting MARINA OSWALD into her home.