

Random Notes From All Over: Book Review at Warren Hearing

Witness Is Informed of Title of Oswald Reading Matter —Athlete Starts Trend

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 6—The verbatim testimony of the 552 witnesses before the Warren Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy, seemingly endless and endlessly fascinating, contains many a diamond hidden in the raw material of history.

Here, in part, is the interrogation of Nelson Delgado, who was a friend of Lee H. Oswald's in the Marine Corps. Mr. Delgado's questioner was Wesley J. Liebeler, an assistant counsel of the commission.

Q.—But you do remember that when you had walked into the room Oswald would be sitting there with this book [Das Kapital] and it would be open?

A.—Yes; and then he had this other book. I am still trying to find out what it is. It's about a farm, and about how all the animals take over and make the farmer work for them. It's really a weird book, the way he was explaining it to me, and that struck me kind of funny.

But he told me that the farmer represented the imperialistic world, and the animals were the workers, symbolizing that they are the socialist people, you know, and that eventually it will come about that the socialists will have the imperialists working for them, and things like that, like these animals, these pigs took over and they were running the whole farm and the farmer was working for them.

Q.—Did you tell the F.B.I. about this?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Did they know the name of the book?

A.—No.

Q.—Do you want to know the name of the book?

A.—Yes.

Q.—It is called "The Animal Farm." It is by George Orwell. There's only one thing that Oswald did not mention apparently and that is that the pigs took over the farm, and then they got to be just like the capitalists were before, they got fighting among themselves, and there was one big pig who did just the same thing the capitalist had done before.

A.—"The Animal Farm." Is that a socialist book?

Q.—No. It is actually supposed to be quite an anti-Communist book.

A.—Is it really?