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In its investigation of Oswald's foreign contacts the Commission placed great reliance upon the Central Intelligence Agency and its information-gathering activities abroad. Also, the Commission received through the Agency information originating with defectors from the Soviet intelligence services on practices and procodures which would be applicable in the Soviet Union to a case like that of Oswald during his stay there. Some of the information furnished by the Agency, and most of its sources for that information, are of a highly confidential nature. Nevertheless, because it believes that the fullest possible disclosure of all the facrelating to the assassination of President Kennedy is of the highest importance, the Commission has included in this Report all the information, without exception, which it considered in coming to its conclusions, whether such information tended to strengthen or to weaken those conclusions. The only information which was not included in the Report, therefore, was either wholly irrelevant to any of the conclusions reached or was derived from sources which are known to be unreliable or whose reliability cannot be assessed at this time. In the latter case even if the source should later be proven to have been -

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assuredly reliable or assuredly unreliable, the Commission's conclusions would remain unchanged.

Secret sources of information, as contrasted to the information itself, have in many instances been withheld. The continued use of such sources and, where secret informants are involved, the very lives of such informants would be placed in jeopardy if names, positions or other identifying characteristics were to be disclosed.

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