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January 15, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. T. LEE BROWN

FROM: Edward P. Williams

SUBJECT: Meeting with Representatives of C.I.A.  
January 14, 1963.

This memorandum summarizes the meeting with Mr. Holte of CIA, one of his associates, Mr. Dallas, and myself which took place yesterday afternoon at the contact of the Central Intelligence Agency.

At the beginning of the meeting you and Mr. Dallas reviewed the special interest of the Government in securing the activities of CIA. You indicated that you believed that a report should be made to the Soviet Union indicating more information regarding the activities of CIA in the Soviet Union. In addition, you indicated that the interest is in securing as much information as possible through the sources of CIA regarding Oswald's activities in the Soviet Union and Mexico.

The representatives of CIA informed us that they are currently engaged in a search for their files regarding Lee Harvey Oswald. They indicated that some were unobtainable due to their information regarding his activities. They advised us that they were engaged within and without their agency to the extent of assistance in providing personnel to be obtained in the Soviet Union. They also indicated that they did not believe they could help very much regarding Oswald's activities while he was in the Soviet Union and Mexico, with an exception of their agency regarding the activities of individuals there.

After further discussion an understanding was reached on the following matters:

1. It was agreed that we would attempt to obtain the necessary security clearance of the members of our staff working in the Soviet area as soon as possible.
2. It was agreed that the request to the Soviet Union would be prepared with the assistance of CIA and submitted through State Department channels.
3. CIA will complete and submit the report on Lee Harvey Oswald currently in progress.
4. We will adhere to the statutory line of jurisdiction regarding the responsibilities of CIA and the FBI.
5. On matters within the CIA's jurisdiction, we will deal directly with that agency rather than through the FBI. Similarly, representatives of CIA will submit relevant information directly to the Commission rather than to the FBI.
6. CIA will assist us in preparing for the taking of these Council's testimony. To enable them to be of assistance, we will supply them as soon as possible with a draft list of questions and any supporting documents prepared by our staff.
7. It was agreed that CIA would assist the Commission in preparing the questions to be submitted to the Soviet Union. There was a difference of view expressed as to the manner in which the questions should be prepared. Mr. Butler indicated his view that the questions should be prepared as quickly as possible and that the questions should be accepted. The representatives of CIA expressed the view that the questions should be as specific as possible and that it would be advisable to take more time, perhaps a few weeks, to prepare the initial submission to the Soviet Union.
8. It was agreed that the Commission would supply CIA with certain intelligence materials which are pertinent to the case through the FBI in order to enable them to be of greater assistance. It was further agreed that CIA generally in its preparation of only the initial five volumes of the FBI country reports.

9. It was agreed that CIA might make material supplied by this foundation available to its own outside consultants. An order to pay the benefit of their expertise. The contract with consultant such this contract of advice were dissolved and it was agreed that this process should nevertheless be done in the exercise of that agency's best judgment.