

CAMERA

(Have not checked completely testimony of Marina, Robert Oswald.)

Nov. 26 (?) 1963

Report of Leon L. Gopadze, Secret Svc., on questioning of Marina by FBI, Nov. 26 (?), 1963: "She /said/ Lee bought one camera in Russia and a second one in the United States. She said one was a small camera and the other was a box camera." CE 1792, p. 408

Feb. 6, 1964

During Marina's testimony, she was shown two cameras. She identified one (CE 136) as a Russian camera belonging to Oswald, had never seen the other (CE 137) before, nor a flash attachment (CE 138) shown her at the same time.

I, 118-9 CE 136, cuera-2 camera?)
CE 136, 137, 138 CE 137, Minox? } CE 2003, p. 340
CE 138, Ansco flash? }

CE 137 and 138, camera and flash attachment, omitted from exhibits, although they were introduced as part of Marina's testimony. The only description of the camera (CE 137) for the record is "a camera in a leather case"; no brand name given, no indication where it was found. These numbers omitted from Index, vol. XV, in section listing exhibits introduced. They are included in Contents, XVI (by number only; the space for description of items is left blank), with the notation "These numbers were not used." *1 - OVER, P. 14

~~Check pox list, CE 2003, for "camera in leather case"; believe have seen "flash attachment" on the list.~~

Feb. 24, 1964

On Dec. 8, 1963, Robert Oswald found "small American made camera", no further description, with other Oswald belongings in Paine house, which he turned over to FBI Feb. 24, 1964. How was this overlooked by pox in their exhaustive searches of Paine house and garage? (Search Nov. 22 and 23.) *2 - OVER
CE 2466, p. 639, FBI report on Robert finding camera.

Is this CE 750? Robert testified Feb. 20, 1964, before he turned over the camera to the FBI.

Check Robert's testimony. Does he mention finding camera? Also, is he subsequently asked to identify by the Commission to identify CE 750 as the camera he found? (See IV-284.) *3 *4 - OVER

Feb. 28, 1964

Letter, JEH to Rankin: "Robert ... advised that this camera was purchased by Lee in about 1957", left it with Robert when he went to Russia, regained possession on return. JEH described this camera as a "Duo-lens Imperial reflex camera". CE 2083, p. 519

Is this CE 750?

Feb. 27, 1964

FBI report, undated: "On Feb. 27, 1964, Marina Oswald advised ... that she had originally taken the photograph of ... Oswald with a rifle and pistol ... with the American-made Imperial Reflex camera owned by Oswald ... " CE 1788, p. 400

Is this CE 750?

*1

Nov. 22, 1963

Numbers not used, perhaps because cameras belonged to Michael Paine?

Michael Paine on pox search of Paine house,
Nov. 22: A "plainclothesman" took "a drawer of cameras, mostly belonging to me."

II, 428, testimony of Michael Paine, March 18, 1964.

*2

Police interested in cameras (see *1) but overlooked CE 750, allegedly found in closet containing Oswalds' belongings (see *3 and *4).

*3 "middle of December"
1963

Robert Oswald: " .. approximately a Sunday afternoon in the middle of December 1963 .. in the presence of Mr. Jim H. Martin, and Mr. John Thorne .. we travelled from Mr. Martin's home to the Paines' house in Irving to pick up Marina's and Lee's clothes that were still there. Mr. and Mrs. Paine helped gather up the belongings of Marina and the children and Lee's personal belongings that were still there." No mention of camera.

Check if can find who suggested picking up the Oswalds' belongings.

I, 348, testimony of Robert Oswald, Feb. 21, 1964.

CE 2466, XXV 639, FBI report with list of items picked up by Robert Oswald.

Liebeler: "Do you recall what was among these things that Robert Oswald and Mr. Martin took?" Ruth Paine: "They took the clothes from the closet, boxes and things that I did not look into. I have heard from the police that it also included an old camera which they had to chase later and went up to Robert Oswald's to find it."

XI, 398, testimony of Ruth Paine, July 23, 1964.

*4 Apr. 23, 1964

Eisenberg: "Mr. Shaneyfelt, I now hand you an Imperial Reflex Duo Lens camera /CE 750/. Let me state for the record, that this camera was turned over to the FBI by Robert Oswald .. on February 24, 1964. Robert Oswald identified the camera as having belonged to Lee Oswald and stated that he, Robert, had obtained it from the Paine residence in December 1963 ... "

Is this identification based on letter from JEB, Feb. 28, 1964 (CE 2083)? Was Robert asked by Commission to identify camera?

Check his testimony.

Feb. 25, 1964

Eisenberg: "On February 25, 1964, Marina was given the camera and she identified it as the one which she had used to take the pictures 133A and 133B."

Check for this identification by Marina on Feb. 25 (FBI report?). She identified it when testifying June 11, 1964 (V 405).

IV, 284, testimony of Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt,
Apr. 23, 1964.

June 11, 1964

Marina returned to Washington to testify. Was shown a camera (CE 750) and identified it as the one with which she took the pictures of Oswald with the rifle (CE 133-A and 133-B). During questioning, CE 750 described only as "the gray camera", with no further identification.

V, 405

Is CE 750 "the American-made Imperial Reflex camera"? Impossible to see any identification on the pictures of it. (Blow-ups of rifle C 2766, CE 541, show identification very clearly.) Contents, XVII, does not list C 750 as "American-made Imperial Reflex", but only as "Camera used to take Commission Exhibits Nos. 133-A and 133-B."

~~Is CE 750 a box-camera?---(See Nov. 26 (?), 1963, above.)~~

CE 750 is "a relatively inexpensive camera ... fixed-focus box-type camera ... with a simple one-shutter speed and no focusing ability, fixed focus. ... Made in the United States. At the base of the camera it has the name Imperial Reflex, made in U.S.A., on the front, below the lens."

IV 284, Shaneyfelt testimony.

Dec. 2, 1963

Interrogation of Marina by FBI agents Boguslav and Heitman: "She said that they had two cameras, one Russian and one American, but she does not recall with which camera she took the photograph. The photograph was taken in the yard ... "

CE 1401, XXII 751

Feb. 18, 1964

Interrogation of Marina by FBI agents Boguslav and Heitman: "It was about seven to ten days after first seeing the rifle that she took the picture of Oswald with the rifle and the pistol and the newspaper." ... "She advised that she believed she took the photograph with the American camera which Oswald owned. She repeated Oswald owned two cameras - one an American camera and the other a Russian-made camera, which she has identified as the Smena 2. She said the American camera had a grayish color, somewhat like aluminum. It was a box-type camera. She is not completely sure however, as to whether the camera had an extending bellows. She can recall that she sighted the camera by looking down into a viewer at the top of the camera. She said she did not know where this camera is now. Marina advised she could identify this camera."

CE 1404, XXII 786

Nov. 26-28, 1963

Interrogation of Marina by Leon I. Gopadze, Secret Service: "She was asked whether she or Lee had any cameras and she replied that Lee bought one camera in Russia and a second one in the United States." (This seems to indicate he bought a camera in the U.S. - any conflict with item of Feb. 28, 1964, CE 2083?)

CE 1792, XXIII 408