

Oswald, Early Chronology

early chron. All dates this card AP, Washington. Nov. 22, 1963 ds~tea

- 10/18/39** Oswald born in New Orleans. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 10/24/56** Enlisted, Marine Corps, Dallas. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 10/56-1/57** Recruit at San Diego, *AP*, Washington. 11/22/63
- 1/20 –2/26/57** In combat training unit at Camp Pendleton, CA. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 3/18 –5/3/57** At Marine Air Detachment Training Center at Jacksonville, FL. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 6-6/57** Attached to a casual company. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 7/57 – 10/58** Marine Air Group 11, 1st Marine Air Wing, Japan. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 4/11/58** Summary court martial in Japan [charge: violating a regulation requiring the registration of privately owned firearm. Convicted, reduced from PF3 to private.]. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 6/18/58** Court martial [charge: using provocative words to non-commissioned officer; record does not show disposition of this charge.]. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 12/58 – 9/11/59** 3rd Air Wing at El Toro, CA, from which he was released from active duty. Highest rank during service was private first class. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 11/2/59** In Moscow, Oswald turned in his American passport and in an affidavit declared:
"I affirm that my allegiance is to the Soviet Socialistic Republic." *AP*, 1:18 p.m. CST
- 1960** Given undesirable discharge from Marine Reserves.

A Corps spokesman said this discharge was a result of Oswald's renunciation of U.S. citizenship when he turned in his passport in Moscow in 1959 and said he would stay in Russia. *AP*, Washington, 11/22/63
- 6/25/63** He reportedly applied for a passport to return to Europe and the Soviet Union. *AP*, 1:18 p.m. CST

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- 11/22/63** Dallas – Oswald ... left Russia at the end of 5/62. *AP*
- 11/22/63** New Orleans - [from interview with Carlos Bringuier, New Orleans delegate for the *Cuban Student Directorate*, a Miami-based anti-Castro organization]
- [following scuffle with anti-Castro Cubans] "The police came and arrested a lot of us - Oswald, myself, and some others. We went into City Court a few days later. The charges against all of us but Oswald were dismissed. He was convicted and paid a fine."
- Police records show an L.H. Oswald was convicted of disturbing the peace and fined \$10 last August. *AP*, 7:09 p.m. EST, Tom Dygard
- 11/23/63** Dallas - In Buffalo, N.Y., V. T. Lee, national director of the *Fair Play for Cuba Committee*, said last night: "We have never issued a charter in that area [New Orleans]. I don't know if Oswald is a member. He could be. There is no one, however, named Oswald who is an official of the committee anywhere in the United States." *San Francisco Chronicle*, *UPI* and *AP*
- [See 12/8/63]
- 11/23/63** Dallas - Brought from Fort Worth was Oswald's mother. ... She said ... "He doesn't come around any more. I haven't seen him in a year." *AP*, 1:18 p.m. CST
- 11/24/63** On 10/18, Oswald rented an \$8 a week room and there remained until last Friday. *AP*, 4:28 p.m. CST, add 4th lead Oswald shooting.
- 12/1/63** Dallas - ... Oswald and his mother ... apparently were estranged for a year before Kennedy was assassinated, Eddie Hughes of the *Dallas Morning News* said in an interview with her.
- ... Mrs. Oswald said the dispute arose over a high chair she had given her year-old granddaughter.
- "He always wanted to earn his own way," said the mother of her frequently unemployed son. "He was always an individualist." *AP*, 12:59 p.m. CST
- [See article by Peter Kihss – *New York Times*, 11/25/63, p. 4.]
- [See article by Fred Powledge, *New York Times*, 11/29/63, p. 5.]

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- 11/25/63** New York - ... [Oswald] got back to California in 12/58, to the Third Air Wing at El Toro. There he applied for a discharge for hardship reasons to support his mother. On 9/11/59, he was put on inactive reserve status.
- Government records indicate he was issued a passport in Los Angeles one day earlier. He told his sister-in-law, Mrs. Robert L. Oswald, on a visit to Fort Worth, that he "wanted to travel a lot," and he talked "about going to Cuba."
- By 10/13, he turned up in Moscow. His occupation was listed as shipping export agent. *New York Times*, Peter Kihss
- 11/26/63** Long feature on *Oswald, the accused assassin.*"
- [9th paragraph] Oswald was a poor boy. His father died before Oswald was born on 10/18/39 in New Orleans. His mother, Marguerite, who had two other sons, tried to make ends meet working in shops. The family moved frequently, living in Fort Worth, New Orleans, North Dakota and New York. *AP*, 5:56 a.m. EST, Sid Moody Undated [New York]
- Following was inserted at 11:04 a.m. EST New York
- [Oswald once was quoted as saying he had lived for a time in North Dakota but Police Chief Jesse Curry of Dallas said he had no record of it. Oswald's mother was not available for comment.]
- 11/26/63** Dallas – nl *Ruby indictment. Near end:*
- Last night, The Cuban government said Oswald tried 9/27 to get a [transit] visa to return to Russia by way of Cuba. Foreign Minister Raul Rao said the request was turned down because Oswald did not have authorization from the Soviet Union. *AP*, 1:38 p.m., Art Everett
- 11/29/63** New Orleans, - ... On 9/17 [63] Oswald applied at the Mexican consulate here for a 15-day tourist card. He represented himself as a photographer who wanted to visit Mexico by bus. The card was granted.
- ... Oswald ... was seen crossing the Mexican border at Laredo, TX, on 9/26.
- 11/29/63** While Lee was in Japan, Mrs. Oswald reached up for a heavy candy carton one day in the store where she worked. The box toppled down and struck her in the head. She was in bed for six months and, very quickly, was destitute. Lee, who by that time returned to California with still another year to go on his hitch, obtained a special hardship discharge to provide for her. He came home for exactly three days.

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... He went to New Orleans, got a job on a freighter and one month later, in 10/59, turned up in Russia. ... *Life*, p. 38

12/1/63 Dallas, [11/30] - ... A report that Oswald purchased \$32 worth of clothing in Laredo on 9/26 is not true, the Federal Bureau of Investigation said today. A spokesman for the store in Laredo said there was no record that he had been there.

A report by L.L. Stewart, manager of Radio Station *KOPY* in Alice, TX, that Oswald had applied for a job at 1:30 p.m. 10/4 also was false, Mrs. Paine said.

She said Oswald had reached Alice early that afternoon and spent the night with his family at her home. *New York Times*, Donald Janson

12/1/63 Geneva -- Lee H. Oswald ... failed to follow up on an application for admission to the *Albert Schweitzer College* at Churwalden in the Grisons Canton of eastern Switzerland, an official of the college said tonight.

Ernest Cassara, interim director of a school, said that its American admissions committee had accepted the application made by Oswald in 1959.

He was accepted for the spring term of 1960, but he never showed up," the school official said.

... Mr. Cassara said the school operated a one-year program for the study of world problems in the light of writings of Dr. Schweitzer ... The course, he said, is attended by 30 to 35 students. *New York Times*

12/2/63 ... He was given a special hardship discharge so he could go home and help his mother, who had been injured badly at her job.

Instead of staying with his mother, he got a job on a freighter and, unknown to his mother, went to Russia with a \$1,000 saved from his Marine days.

In 6/62, Oswald returned to Ft. Worth from Russia. *Life Memorial Edition*

As it has done in many similar cases, the State Department lent Oswald money to get home, and in 6/62 Lee brought his family to Ft. Worth, where he joined his mother. ... In late 1962 Lee got a job in a Dallas photo processing plant. ... Lee was fired from his Dallas job in April ... and he moved his family to New Orleans ... and he found a similar job. ...

By early fall, the Oswalds were broke and Marina was nearly ready to have their second child. She returned to Texas to stay with friends in Irving, a suburb of Dallas. Lee promised to follow as soon as he was financially able. ...

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Early last month, in the first week of October, Lee appeared in Dallas ... He went to a redbrick rooming house at 1026 N. Beckley Ave. in nearby suburban Oak Cliff and rented a tiny cubicle of a room. . *Life Memorial Edition*

12/8/63 New York - The FBI has obtained a series of letters written by the late Lee Harvey Oswald ... to *the Fair Play for Cuba Committee*, two New York newspapers reported today.

The *Times* said Vincent Theodore Lee ... chairman of the committee ... released copies of six letters from Oswald. The originals, Lee said, were turned over to the FBI.

[Quoting *Journal-American?*]: When Oswald's alleged connection with the committee was first reported, soon after the assassination, Lee said he could not recall the man and that the committee had no New Orleans branch.

After inquiries from the FBI, lee said he searched committee files last Thursday and found the Oswald letters.

... The second letter, dated 5/26, reported Oswald had moved to New Orleans and asked for formal membership ...

[See 11/23/63]

12/14/63 10/14/63, rented room from Mrs. A. C. Johnson, Beckley Ave., Dallas.

Got job as stock clerk at \$50 per week, at the *Texas School Book Depository*. *Saturday Evening Post*, Ben H. Bagdikian.

12/14/63 On 10/15/[59] he wrote the Supreme Soviet, the highest parliamentary body in the USSR, and asked for Russian citizenship.

On 5/24/62, the State Department renewed Oswald's U.S. passport, confirmed his citizenship and lent him \$435.71 to purchase passage home.

... 6/13/62 ... in Hoboken, NJ, ... Lee Oswald set foot on American soil again. *Saturday Evening Post*, p. 23

12/15/63 Dallas, [12/14] - ... Oswald applied for a hardship discharge and was released from service in Santa Ana, CA. 9/11/[59] *AP*, Jules Loh

12/15/63 Next morning [9/27] he went to the Cuban Foreign Ministry and applied for a transit visa to the Soviet Union. He was told he first would have to get authorization from Havana, and that would take time. Oswald stormed out and slammed the door.

The following day he went to the Soviet Consulate where he was similarly informed that the application would have to be

submitted through Moscow and it could take up to three months. Again, Oswald angrily stalked out.

He left Mexico City 10/2, arrived in Nuevo Laredo the next morning and headed for Dallas, 475 miles away. When he got there 10/4 he took a bed at the YMCA and the next day found a \$7 a week room where he lived for 10 days. Then he moved to an \$8 a week room at 1026 North Beckley in the Oak Cliff section. *New York Times*, Fred Powledge

12/15/63 Dallas. [12/14] ... [In the spring of 1958], while still in service, Oswald had applied for admission to the Albert Schweitzer College in Churwalden, Switzerland. [The institution isn't a college in the normal sense; it offers a one-year liberal arts course]. Oswald was accepted, but never showed up.

Trying to trace her son's whereabouts, Mrs. Oswald. wrote to the school asking if it had any information.

"So far as we knew he had simply disappeared," said Dr. Robert B. Schacht of Providence, R.I., chairman of the school's American admissions committee.

[see card this Oswald, Early Chronology, *New York Times*, 12/1/63]

12/15/63 Dallas, [12/14] - ... On 10/31/[59] he walked into the American Embassy [Moscow], slapped his passport down on a desk, and said he had applied for Soviet citizenship.

The Embassy suggested he had better not sign any papers until he was sure the Soviet Union would accept him. Nonetheless, two days later Oswald swore out an affidavit saying "I affirm that my allegiance is to the Soviet Socialist Republic." [See 10/31/59, *Oswald's Diary – Life*, 7/10/64, p. 26]

But the Soviet Socialist Republic didn't particularly want him. They refused him citizenship, told him he could live there as an alien resident.

12/15/63 Dallas, [12/14] - ... On 9/26/[63] he showed up in the Mexican border town of Nuevo Laredo. He bought a \$5.71 bus ticket to Mexico City where he checked in to a \$1.28 room at the *Commercio Hotel*.

[The following morning he went to the Cuban Foreign Ministry, and the day after that to the Soviet Consulate.]

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- 12/25/63** Mexico City - The newspaper *Excelsior* said tonight [11/24] it had evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, visited the Soviet and Cuban Consuls here last September and tried to get a visa.
- The newspaper did not disclose the source of its story, but said that it was from "a high official source." It said it corroborated the report and found that Oswald was in Mexico from 9/26 to 10/3. *AP*, 1:35 a.m. EST
- 12/26/63** Mexico City, [11/25] - ... There were reports here ... that [Oswald's] movements were followed in Mexico by an unidentified United States agency. *New York Times*, Paul P. Kennedy
- 12/26/63** Laredo, TX, [11/25] - When Oswald crossed the border here on 9/26 he gave his destination as Mexico City.
- The record of his travel was maintained by the Mexican Government, not the United States Government. William M. Kline, assistant United States Customs agent in charge here, said that when a United States citizen enters the interior of Mexico the Mexican Government gives him certain documents that he must return when he leaves that country.
- The United States does not record the crossing of its own citizens, hundreds of whom go back and forth every day. *New York Times*
- 1/7/64** In early September, Oswald returned briefly to Fort Worth. He left the city after three days without disclosing his destination. [Mrs. Oswald] had seen a passport he had obtained in California, listing his occupation as the export-import business. *New York Times*, Jack Langguth
- 1/7/64** ... On 10/31/59, Ft. Worth newspapers carried news that Oswald had applied in Moscow for Soviet citizenship.
- ... Mrs. Oswald said that she had sent a \$20 foreign money order to the *Metropole* [Moscow] and also a \$20 United States bill. After two and a half months, both were returned with a note that the hotel could not locate her son.
- [Mrs. Oswald sought help from FBI, Sam Rayburn, Christian A. Herter, Rep. James C. Wright Jr. of Fort Worth,]
- On March 9, 1960 ... she received an answer from Mr. Wright, [saying] he had contacted the State Department for help in locating Oswald.
- When Mr. Wright's inquiry did not lead to news of Oswald, his mother went to Washington in late 1/61.
- The State Department located Oswald in Minsk, and he began to correspond regularly with his mother in 6/61. . *New York Times*, Jack Langguth

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Undated *The Torch is Passed*, pp. 57-68

Undated [In 7/59 Oswald] received a letter from his mother. She had been injured by a falling box at the store where she worked and her compensation case wasn't yet settled. She needed her son. He was given a hardship discharge 9/11 and headed straight for Ft. Worth [from Tustin, CA] *The Torch is Passed*, p. 63

Undated [On 9/24 Oswald left New Orleans and] went to the Mexican border town of Nuevo Laredo, arriving 9/26. That was the day the White House announced that President Kennedy would visit Texas. *The Torch is Passed*, p. 66

2/9/64 Mr. and Mrs. Paine were separated. Mr. Paine "hates Oswald with great passion"; Lane does not know the reason. Paine would not come to the house when Oswald was there. Lane talk

2/14/64 That day, 10/14, Lee took an \$8 room in a boardinghouse on North Beckley Ave. He gave his name as O. H. Lee. Next day he was hired at the warehouse. 10/20 his second daughter, Rachel, was born. *Time*, p. 19

2/21/64	10/18/39	born, New Orleans
	9/52	moved to New York
	1/54	letter to mother from truant officer returned "Moved. Left no forwarding address."
	?/54	moved to New Orleans
	10(?)/55	tried to enlist in Marines; rejected, under age
	8/56	moved to Fort Worth
	10/24/56	enlisted in Marines, in Dallas
	7/57	shipped out of San Francisco, assigned to Atsugi Naval Air Station, Tokyo
	4/11/58	courtmartialed
	6(?)/58	courtmartialed; reduced in rank, pfc to private
	10/58	assigned to El Toro Marine base, Santa Ana, Calif. began to study Russian
	summer/59	applied for hardship release applied for admission to <i>Albert Schweitzer College</i> , Switzerland spent three nights at mother's house, Fort Worth had saved \$1,600 sailed for Europe [from New Orleans?]
	10/59	report of defection to Russia
	10/31/59	renounced citizenship, US Embassy, Moscow

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- 11/14/59 said had applied for Soviet citizenship
Soviet officials told him would not be granted citizenship
soon afterward moved to Minsk [sheet metal worker]
joined rifle club [according to what he told a man he knew later in Texas]
Marine Corps gave him undesirable discharge
- 7/60 tried to get exit visa [according to letter to Senator John Tower in 1962]
- 2/61 informed American Embassy of desire to return
- 3/61 met Marina Nikolaevna Pruskova [age 19]
- 4/30/61 married Marina
- 5/62 State Department granted loan of \$435.71
- 5/30/62 wrote mother would be leaving from Holland 6/4
Fort Worth: stayed briefly at brother Robert's house and then with mother
- 7/62 got job with *Louv-R-Pac Co.* [welding company], Fort Worth, as sheet metal helper, \$50 a week; living in apartment on Mercedes St., \$59 a month
- 9/62 left job at the end of Sept.
- 10/62 moved to Dallas YMCA; rented P.O. box; after about three weeks found work as apprentice photo printer, *Jaggars-Chiles-Stovall*, Dallas, \$1.50 per hour; rented apartment, joined by family
met Mrs. Paine
- 3/20/63 rifle delivered to P.O. box, for "A. Hidell"
- 4/63 lost job; started receiving \$33 a week unemployment compensation
- 4/10/63 told Marina had fired rifle shot at Walker
- 4/63 wrote to *Fair Play for Cuba Committee*, asking for pamphlets, "sent 4/19/63"
- 4/24?/63 Oswald suggesting Marina return to Russia;
instead, she went to stay with Mrs. Paine 5/10?/63
New Orleans: hired by coffee processing company, *William B. Riley & Co.*, as machinery oiler, \$1.50 an hour;
unemployment compensation stops;
rented apartment, \$65 a month
- 5/26/63 requested formal membership, *Fair Play for Cuba Committee*
- 7/19/63 lost job;
reinstated claim to unemployment compensation in Texas;
payments began again 8/5?/63
offered help to *Cuban Student Directorate*;
rejected
- 8/9/63 argument on street with Carlos Bringuier;
arrested for disturbing the peace, \$10 fine
- 9/63 seven-day trip to Mexico* [In mMexico 9/26/63 – 10/3/63?, *Warren Report*, pp. 14, 299, 322

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10/3/63 returned to Dallas
10/14/63 rented room at 1026 N. Beckley Ave., Oak Cliff, \$8 a week;
applied and hired as order-filler, \$1.25 an hour
10/23/63 attended right-wing rally addressed by Walker
11/9-10/63 reported at rifle range by Malcolm Price
11/17/63 reported at rifle range by Garland Slack, who also confirmed presence there 11/9-10/63
11/16-17 did not go to Irving for usual weekend with family
11/18/63 alias of O. H. Lee discovered by Mrs. Paine
11/19/63 *Dallas News* announced route of motorcade
11/20/63 announcement that Kennedy due at *Trade Mart* at 12:30 p.m.
11/21/63 arrived unannounced at Paine house
11/22/63 went to work with Wesley Frazier, carrying long package of "window shades"

Life, 2/21/64

3/16/64 Dr. Carlos Bruiguiar, an anti-Castro Cuban, said here last night he asked for congressional investigation of Lee Harvey Oswald three months before the 11/22 assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The 29-year-old New Orleans delegate of the *Cuban Student Directorate* said he encountered Oswald four times last August in New Orleans.

The first time, he said, was when Oswald tried to sign up to train and fight with anti-Castro Cubans.

The second was on a New Orleans street when Oswald was passing out *Fair Play for Cuba* literature.

The third was at a court appearance that followed a scuffle between Oswald, Bringuier and two other Cubans where Oswald was passing out literature.

The fourth was a radio debate with Oswald, who he said admitted to being a Marxist.

It was after this that Bringuier said he asked for the investigation of Oswald. *San Francisco Examiner*

6/13/63 Oswald, wife and child arrived in New York. *New York*, Peter Kihss, 11/25/83, p. 4

7/10/64 Oswald's Historic Diary, *Life*, p. 26

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- 10/16/59 Arrived in Moscow by train from Helsinki.
- 10/21/59 Asked for Soviet citizenship; official tried to dissuade him.
At 6 p.m. notified visa would not be extended, ordered to leave country at 8 p.m.
Suicide attempt [somewhere, a violin plays, as I watch my life whirl away ...]
In hospital until 10/28.
- 10/31/59 To American Embassy to dissolve citizenship.
Warned by Richard E. Snyder not to take any steps before Russians accept him and told that dissolution papers would take a long time to prepare." [In other words refuses to allow me at that time to dissolve U.S. citizen.]"
- 1/4/60 Called to passport office. Was not granted Soviet citizenship, but given Soviet, "residence document" ... "for those without citizenship."
- 1/7/60 Left Moscow by train; arrived Minsk.
- 1/4/61 Called to passport office and asked if he wanted Soviet citizenship.
Replied did not but asked for extension of residential passport, which was extended for one year.
- 2/1/61 Applied to American Embassy, Moscow, for reconsideration of position; wanted to return to U.S.
- 2/28/61 Reply from Snyder, saying he could come in for interview.
- 3/17/61 Met Marina N. Pruskova.
- 4/31/61 Married Marina.
- 7/8/61 Flew to Moscow to see about getting U.S. passport back and arrange for Marina and himself to return to U.S.
The 8th a Saturday but contacted Snyder at Embassy; was asked to return Monday [7/10].
- 7/9/61 Sunday. "Interview 7/9, receive passport." Diary indicates entries 7/8-13, but published version includes nothing between 7/9 and 7/14.
- 8/20 Applied for exit visas.
Granted 12/25.
- 1/4/62 Residential passport expired; since now had U.S. passport given "Pass. For Forin."
- 3/26(?) Received letter from Immigration and Naturalization Service, San Antonio, Texas
Marina's visa petition approved.