

FBI

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The Communist party of the U.S.A. said yesterday it had forwarded letters it received from Lee H. Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, and the replies it sent him to the Presidential commission investigating the case.

Arnold Johnson, the party's public relations director, said Oswald was "never a Communist." He said his letters had asked for "literature and information, just as thousands of others do."

The Worker, Communist semi-weekly here, has been contending in a succession of articles by George Morris, staff writer, that "the 'enigma' of Oswald might be cleared up if the F.B.I., State Department, Central Intelligence Agency, Dallas police or the Government's agencies handling the pro-invasion Cubans in this country would at least reply to published evidence that Oswald was an undercover agent."

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In this week's issue of The Worker, Mr. Morris writes: "Every undercover plant is required to proclaim himself as a 'Marxist,' 'unionist' or whatever may be needed to be an effective agent. Much of Oswald's letter writing to an assortment of organizations is also in that category."

To bolster this theory, Mr. Morris offers these points:

• Miss Pauline Bates, a Dallas public stenographer, said Oswald came to her June 18, 1961, three days after his return from the Soviet Union, to type "anti-Soviet" notes he said he had smuggled out on scrap paper. Miss Bates was quoted as saying he hinted he was a United States agent by saying, "when the State Department granted my visa, they stipulated they would not stand behind me in any way."

1962?

• An article in The Philadelphia Inquirer on Dec. 8 had reported "the F.B.I. tried to recruit Oswald as an undercover informant in Castro groups two months before Mr. Kennedy's assassination." Oswald's mother was said to have asserted that Joseph Hosty, a Dallas agent, visited her son in September and they had a long talk in Mr. Hosty's car after which Oswald told her "Hosty wanted him to be an informant."

Mr. Morris questioned whether Mr. Hosty's visit had any relation to Oswald's effort last summer to join the Cuban Student Directorate, a group of exiles opposing Premier Fidel Castro, or Oswald's trip later in September to Mexico City where the Cuban and Soviet Embassies refused his requests for visas.

Mr. Morris also questioned how Oswald managed to get a United States passport last June "within a day, although he was listed as a 'Marxist' and one whose right to a passport is under legal question," and how Oswald planned to finance a trip last fall to the Soviet Union by way of Cuba.

Mr. Morris asserted that Oswald's Russian-born wife, Marina, "has in her two years in Texas been almost entirely confined to a circle of Russian emigres there whose hostility to the Soviet Union is notorious."