

Rea

1 Dec 1963

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A58

OSWALD-SOVIET BUDGET (400)

BY PRESTON GROVER

ASSOCIATED PRESS STAFF WRITER

MOSCOW, DEC. 1 (AP)-SOVIET CORRESPONDENTS ARE PAINTING THE UNITED STATES AS IN SUCH TURMOIL THAT MANY PEOPLE HARDLY DARE LEAVE THEIR HOUSES BECAUSE OF THREATS OF THOSE TRYING TO COVER UP THE ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

"THE DALLAS ULTRAS FEEL SO CONFIDENT," REPORTED BOARIS STRELNIKOV IN A DISPATCH FROM NEW YORK TO PRAVDA, "THAT EVEN THE MAYOR OF THAT CITY (DALLAS) DOES NOT DARE LEAVE HIS HOME TO GO INTO THE STREET. SOME STRANGERS THREATENED TO KILL HIM BECAUSE HE DARED TO BE PRESENT AT KENNEDY'S FUNERAL."

HE ADDED THAT WITNESSES CALLED BY THE FBI IN DALLAS DARE NOT TESTIFY FOR FEAR OF REPRISALS FROM THE "ULTRAS."

IN DALLAS, MAYOR EARLE CABELL CALLED THE REPORT "UTTERLY RIDICULOUS."

"MY FAMILY AND I HAVE LED A PERFECTLY NORMAL EXISTANCE...WITHOUT ANY FEAR OR APPREHENSION," HE ADDED.

CABELL SAID THERE HAD BEEN TIMES SINCE THE ASSASSINATION POLICEMEN HAD HIM UNDER SURVEILLANCE BUT "THIS IS NOT THE CASE NOW."

A SLOW SWING IN THE NATURE OF THE REPORTING FROM THE UNITED STATES HAS TURNED AGAINST LEE HARVEY OSWALD. IN THE BEGINNING THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS DEFENDED IN DISPATCHES IN EVERY PAPER IN MOSCOW. NOW THE SOVIET PRESS IS SEIZING ON WESTERN REPORTS THAT OSWALD REALLY WAS ANTI-SOVIET AND UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF RIGHT-WING EXTREMISTS.

TODAY, PRAVDA PUBLISHED A REPORT BY HARRY FREEMAN, AMERICAN REPORTER FOR TASS IN NEW YORK, CITING A REPORT OF A FORT WORTH STENOGRAPHER WHO TOLD A CORRESPONDENT THAT SHE HAD TYPED SOME NOTES OF A BOOK OSWALD SOUGHT TO WRITE. SHE SAID IT WAS CRITICAL OF THE SOVIET UNION.

FROM PARIS, AND EVEN FROM FAR AWAY NEW DELHI, SOVIET REPORTERS HAVE RELAYED REPORTS TO MOSCOW POINTING TO THE ROLE THEY INSIST WAS PLAYED IN THE ASSOCIATION BY "ULTRAS."

CLEARLY SOMETHING AKIN TO A WORLDWIDE EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO BRING IN AVAILABLE REPORTS AIMED AT SHOWING THAT COMMUNISTS HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE NOV. 22 ASSASSINATION AND THAT RIGHTISTS WERE TO BLAME.

TWO SMALL NEWSPAPERS IN NEW DELHI WERE QUOTED. A WRITER IN THE "PATRIOT" IS QUOTED BY TASS, THE SOVIET OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY, AS SAYING "THE FOLLOWERS OF SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER, MEMBERS OF THE 'JOHN BIRCH' SOCIETY, OF CONSERVATIVE GROUPINGS IN THE SOUTH, THE KU KLUX KLAN, AND OTHER AMERICAN FASCIST-LIKE ORGANIZATIONS ARE THE FORCES DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S ASSASSINATION."

IN WASHINGTON, AN AIDE TO SEN. GOLDWATER SAID HE WAS OUT OF TOWN, BUT EVEN IF HE WERE AVAILABLE "WOULDN'T COMMENT ON ANYTHING SO RIDICULOUS."

ANOTHER LITTLE NEWSPAPER, "LINK," WAS QUOTED AS SAYING EFFORTS WERE BEING MADE TO PUT THE BLAME ON AMERICAN COMMUNISTS. SUCH ATTEMPTS, THE PAPER SAID, ARE LUDICROUS AND NAIVE.

FROM PARIS CAME A DISPATCH TO PRAVDA QUOTING FRENCH PAPERS AS SAYING "OSWALD FELT AN OBVIOUS ANTI-PATHY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION AND ON HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES MADE SLANDEROUS STATEMENTS AGAINST THE SOVIET SYSTEM. THAT APPARENTLY THROWS LIGHT ON THE PROBABLE REASON FOR OSWALD'S TRIP TO THE U.S.S.R."

IT DID NOT GIVE FURTHER INDICATION OF WHAT THE "PROBABLE REASON" WAS.

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MOSCOW--FIRST ADD SOVIET-OSWALD A58-9 XXX WAS.

TASS REPORTED FROM NEW YORK THAT THOMAS AARON, A STUDENT OF LOUISVILLE UNIVERSITY, HAD PUBLICLY RENOUNCED HIS MEMBERSHIP IN "YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM," AN ORGANIZATION THE AGENCY SAID WAS "EXTREME RIGHT WING," TEACHING ITS MEMBERS "IN A SPIRIT OF VICIOUS ANTI-COMMUNISM AND BLIND HATRED FOR EVERYTHING PROGRESSIVE."

THE ARTICLE QUOTED AARON AS SAYING THE ASSASSINATION OBLIGED HIM TO QUIT SINCE IT COULD ONLY BE EXPLAINED "BY THE CLIMATE OF POLITICAL DEGENERATION AND MORAL HYSTERIA WHICH IS PALMED OFF AS 'GENUINE AMERICANISM'."

TASS SAID THIS REPORT AND OTHERS "SHOWS THAT NOTWITHSTANDING ATTEMPTS TO FAN ANTI-COMMUNIST HYSTERIA, THE ORDINARY AMERICANS UNDERSTAND THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MONSTROUS CRIME PERPETRATED IN DALLAS RESTS WITH THE MOST REACTIONARY FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES--THE EXTREME RIGHT-WING RACISTS."

OTHER REPORTS PUBLISHED HERE SAID SOME PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON AND DALLAS JUMP EVERY TIME THE TELEPHONE RINGS.

ONE BUSINESSMAN IN DALLAS WAS CITED BY SOVIET REPORTERS AS TELLING A CORRESPONDENT OF A NEW YORK NEWSPAPER THAT HE HAD BEEN THREATENED WITH DEATH OVER THE TELEPHONE IF HE TALKED ABOUT JACK RUBY, NOW IN JAIL FOR SHOOTING OSWALD.

"AS SOON AS YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH YOU WILL BE DEAD, TOGETHER WITH YOUR WHOLE FAMILY," WAS HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE MENACING MESSAGE OVER THE TELEPHONE. HE ADDED, ACCORDING TO TASS, THAT HE WAS GOING TO KEEP SILENT UNLESS THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY ALSO THREATENED HIM WITH DEATH.

STILL ANOTHER STRELNIKOV DISPATCH SAID:

"FBI AGENTS ARE NOW SEARCHING IN NEW YORK FOR A CERTAIN RACIST FROM MISSISSIPPI STATE WHO ALLEGEDLY WAS OSWALD'S FRIEND AND LIVED WITH HIM IN ONE APARTMENT AT GREENWICH VILLAGE. THE FBI IS ALSO INTERESTED IN THOSE WHO PAID FOR AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS--AN APPEAL TO KENNEDY PUBLISHED BY THE NEWSPAPER WITHIN A BLACK EDGE OF MOURNING ON THE DAY THE PRESIDENT ARRIVED AT DALLAS. HOWEVER, THE DALLAS POLICE, OF COURSE, 'CANNOT' FIND THE PEOPLE WHO PAID THE NEWSPAPER \$1,250 FOR PRINTING THIS MALICIOUS MANIFESTO OF PRO-FASCIST ELEMENTS."

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SOVIET PAPERS HAVE AVOIDED PRINTING ANYTHING ABOUT OSWALD'S NEARLY THREE YEARS IN THE SOVIET UNION BEYOND A BARE MENTION THAT HE WAS HERE, WORKED IN MINSK, AND LATER RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES WITH HIS RUSSIAN WIFE AND BABY.

THE AMERICAN EMBASSY ALSO IS MUM ABOUT THE CASE, ON ORDERS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT. ALL INFORMATION ABOUT OSWALD IN THE CONSULAR FILES HERE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

NONE OF THE PRESENT EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICIALS KNEW OSWALD. THOSE WHO HANDLED HIS CASE IN 1959 AND IN 1962 HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED.

HOTEL EMPLOYEES AND OTHERS APPEARED TO REMEMBER PRIMARILY HIS VOCIFEROUS CLAIMS THAT HE WAS A MARXIST. HE MADE SUCH STATEMENTS ALSO TO CONSULAR OFFICERS AT THE TIME HE THREW HIS AMERICAN PASSPORT ON AN EMBASSY DESK IN 1959 AND ANNOUNCED HE WAS GOING TO BECOME A SOVIET CITIZEN.

IN 1962, HOWEVER, HE TOLD EMBASSY OFFICIALS HE HAD NOT BECOME A SOVIET CITIZEN AND ASKED FOR RETURN OF HIS PASSPORT. ONE WAS GIVEN HIM AND HE WAS GIVEN A LOAN TO FINANCE HIS RETURN TO AMERICA WITH HIS WIFE AND BABY.

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