

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET

12-62

ROUTING

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Distos:jz  
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5940  
29 November 63

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 FILE IN CS FILE NO. 201-287248 Destroy

THE WHITE HOUSE ATTN: MR. MCGEORGE BUNDY  
THE STATE DEPARTMENT ATTN: MR. U. ALEXIS JOHNSON  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
~~DEPARTMENT~~ CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY *RE: ... PASSED ON*  
*LOND 6027, HAGU 50*

29 Nov 63 18 40z

SIG CEN

ROUTINE

IMMEDIATE

*cc: Walsh*  
*9 NOV 1963*

C/WH 4

DCI, D/DCI, DDP, C/CI 2, VR

INFO

CITE DIR

85715

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN GATHERED FROM RELIABLE SOURCES

REGARDING THE TRAVEL OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND HIS WIFE:

A. 9 OCTOBER 1959: ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL BRITISH TRAVEL RECORDS

OSWALD ARRIVED IN SOUTHAMPTON THIS DATE CLAIMING ON HIS LANDING CARD THAT HE HAD NO FIXED ADDRESS BUT PLANNED TO REMAIN IN THE UNITED KINGDOM ONE WEEK FOR VACATION BEFORE GOING ON TO "SOME SCHOOL IN SWISS." (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: PROBABLY REFERRING TO THE ALBERT SCHWEITZER COLLEGE IN SWITZERLAND WHICH HE IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN IN CORRESPONDENCE.)

CONDUCTED ON 24 MAY 1976  
E IMPDET CL BY 012208

B. 10 OCTOBER 1959: ACCORDING TO THE SAME OFFICIAL BRITISH TRAVEL

RECORDS OSWALD LEFT LONDON THIS DATE BY AIR FOR HELSINKI.

C. OCTOBER 1959: STOCKHOLEM NEWSPAPER "DAGENS NYHETER" OF 25 NOVEMBER

1963 STATES LEE OSWALD PASSED THROUGH SWEDEN DURING OCTOBER 1959. ARTICLE ALSO ADDS THAT OSWALD WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING VISA TO THE USSR IN HELSINKI WHICH RESULTED IN HIS RETURNING TO STOCKHOLM. TWO DAYS AFTER HE ARRIVED IN STOCKHOLM OSWALD TRAVELED DIRECTLY TO MOSCOW. CONCLUDING SENTENCE OF ARTICLE STATES "THIS INDICATES THAT THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY (STOCKHOLM) GAVE HIM A VISA." ACCORDING

TO A RELIABLE SOURCE THERE WAS NO RECORD THAT THERE WAS ANY REQUEST FOR A USSR

VISA PROCESSED THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS FOR OSWALD AT ANY TIME DURING 1959, AND

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SOURCE INDICATED IT WAS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN HOW OSWALD MIGHT HAVE RECEIVED HIS VISA IN TWO DAYS WITHOUT GOING THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS. THE ONLY CONCLUSION WHICH CAN BE DRAWN IS THAT OSWALD MUST HAVE RECEIVED HIS VISA DIRECTLY FROM THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM WHICH OCCASIONALLY IS DONE IN SPECIAL CASES, BUT THE SOURCE HAD NO EVIDENCE TO CONFIRM THIS ASSUMPTION.

D. 10 TO 15 OCTOBER 1959: ACCORDING TO A VERY RELIABLE BUT EXTREMELY SENSITIVE SOURCE OSWALD STAYED AT THE TORNI HOTEL IN HELSINKI FROM 10 TO 11 OCTOBER AND THEN MOVED TO THE KLAUS KURKI HOTEL WHERE HE STAYED UNTIL 15 OCTOBER, APPARENTLY WAITING FOR A VISA TO BE ISSUED HIM BY THE SOVIET CONSULATE IN HELSINKI. HE TRAVELED TO THE USSR BY TRAIN, CROSSING AT VAINIKKALA ON 15 OCTOBER.

E. 13 MAY 1962: ACCORDING TO A DUTCH OFFICIAL SOURCE, THE DUTCH CHARGE IN MOSCOW ISSUED A TRANSIT VISA TO OSWALD'S WIFE ON 13 MAY 1962. THEIR RECORDS REVEAL HIS WIFE WAS BORN ON 17 JULY 1941 INSTEAD OF 19 JULY 1941 AND IN SEVERODVINSK INSTEAD OF MINSK. THERE IS NO RECORD OF HER HAVING ACTUALLY TRANSITED THE NETHERLANDS.

F. 1962: OFFICIAL BRITISH RECORDS DO NOT REFLECT THAT OSWALD RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES FROM THE USSR THROUGH THE UNITED KINGDOM. HOWEVER, IF HE WERE MERELY TRANSITING, IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN NECESSARY FOR HIM TO FILL OUT A LANDING CARD, AND THEREFORE THERE WOULD BE NO RECORD OF HIS TRAVEL IN THE

OFFICIAL TRAFFIC INDEX.

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G. 1963: INFO CITE DIR ACCORDING TO AN EXTREMELY SENSITIVE AND RELIABLE SOURCE,

ON 23 NOVEMBER MARIA SMETHLAGE, HEAD OF THE "WERKGROUP INFORMATIE CUBA," TOLD AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE THAT SHE WAS SURE SHE HAD MET "THAT MR. LEE IN HAVANA, WHO DID THE MURDER." SHE DESCRIBED HIM AS A MAN OF VIOLENCE AND ENTIRELY FULL OF HATE AND INDICATED THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THIS MAN HAD BEEN MISUSED BY A GROUP. SHE SAID SHE HAD WRITTEN TO "GIBSON" ABOUT THE BAD IMPRESSION SHE HAD HAD OF THIS LEE. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS: PLEASE REFER TO OUR TELETYPE NOS 85182 AND 85665 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON GIBSON.) ALMOST THREE HOURS LATER, SMETHLAGE AGAIN CONTACTED THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE AND SAID THAT "MR LEE OF THE FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE" HAD BEEN SLANDERED AND THAT IT WAS ANOTHER PERSON NAMED LEE OSWALD WHO HAD DONE IT. SMETHLAGE SEEMED TO BE GLAD TO HAVE HEARD THIS "CORRECT" VERSION. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: MR. LEE MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH VINCENT THEODORE LEE WHO REPLACED RICHARD GIBSON AS HEAD OF THE FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE.)

H. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE INFORMATION SMETHLAGE WAS IN CUBA IN JANUARY 1963, AND ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL DUTCH SOURCE, SHE AGAIN TRAVELED TO CUBA FOR THE MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS IN 1963.

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END OF MESSAGE

BASED ON LOUD 6097, HAGU 5063, [redacted] 4314 AND [redacted] 2299  
 (IN 69100) (69140) (69613) (68739)

C/S COMMENT: \*DISSEMINATION APPLICABLE TO RYBAT GPFLOOR CABLES.

*Richard Helms*  
 RICHARD HELMS - DD/P  
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