

TO : Chief/Research Branch/SRS/OS DATE: 30 December 1963

FROM : M. D. Stevens

SUBJECT: OSWALD CASE

1. Reference is made to the attached copy of an incoming State Department telegram dated 19 December 1963, in connection with the Harvey Lee OSWALD Case (see Tab A). This telegram concerns a Mr. and Mrs. DEMOHRENSCHILDT who appear to have lived in Dallas, Texas, but on 2 June 1963 went to Haiti and have not since returned to the United States.

2. According to this telegram, the DEMOHRENSCHILDTs were interviewed at Port au Prince on 19 December 1963 at which time they stated that they left Dallas on 19 April (1963) for New York and Philadelphia; and returned to Dallas for two days near the end of May to make final arrangements for their trip to Haiti; but did not contact OSWALD on their May visit to Dallas.

3. The above referred to incoming telegram makes reference to prior messages of which I have not received copies and it is impossible to determine what connection the DEMOHRENSCHILDTs have with the OSWALD Case. The telegram refers to the fact that Mrs. DEMOHRENSCHILDT believed she "saw gun at apartment" in Oakleaf, a Dallas suburb. (The New York Times of 20 December 1963, in referring to the arrest of Russell W. McLARRY of Dallas on charges of having threatened on 21 November 1963 that he was going to kill President Kennedy the next day, stated that McLARRY lives in an apartment house "in the Oakcliff section of Dallas, a sprawling area where OSWALD lived". (See paragraph 3 of Tab A). It appears from information in the telegram that the DEMOHRENSCHILDTs were well acquainted with the OSWALDs. Mrs. DEMOHRENSCHILDT took Mrs. OSWALD in her car from Fort Worth to Dallas for dental treatment a week or two after they first met OSWALD.

4. According to Mr. and Mrs. DEMOHRENSCHILDT, they were interested in the OSWALDs solely in helping them as "unfortunate people". They named the following persons who might have additional information regarding the OSWALDs: Samuel BALLEEN, an investment banker in Dallas, to whom OSWALD applied for a job, and Theo MELLER and his Russian wife. (See Tab A, paragraphs 5 and 6). Security indices contain no information on BALLEEN or MELLER. BALLEEN was mentioned at length in a Washington Post article on 1 December 1963 as a petroleum economist who interviewed OSWALD for a job.

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5. It appears that Mr. DEMOHRENSCHILDT in all probability is George S. DEMOHRENSCHILDT, aka: George Sergius VON MOHRENSCHILDT and Jerzy VON MOHRENSCHILDT, #775, who in July 1942 was Security disapproved for OSS employment. DEMOHRENSCHILDT was born in Russia in 1911; was educated in Poland and served in the Polish Army; and later attended the University of Brussels where he graduated in 1938. Shortly thereafter he came to the United States and took out his first naturalization papers. He seems to have made his home in Dallas, Texas.

6. DEMOHRENSCHILDT appears to be a dubious character. In 1942 he was considered a Nazi sympathizer and possible intelligence agent; he has spent a good deal of time in Mexico where he was suspected of possibly subversive activities; and at the University of Texas, where he enrolled in 1944, he was said to have Communist tendencies. He was the subject of a lengthy OHI investigation in 1942 and of investigation by the FBI from 1941 through 1948.

7. DEMOHRENSCHILDT was of interest to OO/C in 1958, at which time the attached summary of information was furnished that office by Security (see Tab B).

8. In October 1962 DEMOHRENSCHILDT, in Dallas, Texas, wrote the Under Secretary of State in Washington, D. C., and offered to submit a travelogue which he had prepared following a trip which he and his wife had made through Mexico and Central America. According to DEMOHRENSCHILDT, he was about to send it to England and France and had been told by his friends in Europe that they might send his typescript to the U.S.S.R., "where there is a great demand for travelogues and adventure stories".

9. On 29 April 1963 Security furnished ⁰³ [redacted] of DODS a thermofaxed copy of the 1958 OO/C summary referred to above. Gale ALLEN, a DODS Case Officer, had requested an expedite check of George DEMOHRENSCHILDT for reasons unknown to Security.

10. A former wife of George DEMOHRENSCHILDT, Mrs. Phyllis Washington DEMOHRENSCHILDT, #45478 SSD, was employed by NCFE from 1950 (or before) until her termination (reasons unknown) on 12 January 1951. It is noted that in connection with this employment, she named Bernard YARROW, #3583, as a reference.

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11. No thorough review has been made of the DEMOERENSCHILDTS' files by me.

M. D. STEVENS

Attachments:
as stated

