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XAAZ-22601

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

SUBJECT: Reports on Activities and Travel of Lee Harvey OSWALD and Marina Nikolevna OSWALD as Transmitted to Warren Commission

1. Reference is made to the second paragraph of your memorandum dated 12 February 1964, and the second paragraph of your memorandum of 16 March 1964, relative to disseminations of information made by CIA to the Secret Service.

2. Immediately after the assassination of President Kennedy CIA undertook to assemble through its stations in Europe all available data, including information in the files of other governments and intelligence services, on the travels and activities of Lee Harvey OSWALD and Marina Nikolevna OSWALD. This information, as it was collected, was made available to the White House, the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Copies of these messages were also sent to the Secret Service.

3. Attached to this memorandum are exact copies of two teletyped messages relative to the travels and activities of the OSWALDs (Attachments A and B). Paragraphs g and h of Attachment C are paraphrased. In Attachment C, OUT Teletype No. 85715, are found references to two other teletyped messages (OUT No. 85182 and OUT No. 85665) which describe one Richard Thomas GIBSON, a negro journalist

Document Number 627-821
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now residing in Switzerland who has been active in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. Paraphrases of No. 85182 and No. 85665 are included as Attachments D and E. Access to original texts of paraphrased items will be provided when members of your staff visit Langley. The information on which paragraphs g and h of Attachment C are based was received at CIA Headquarters on 27 November and disseminated on 28 November.

4. This memorandum and the attachments contain very sensitive information which has a direct bearing on sources and methods. An appropriate sensitivity indicator has therefore been affixed.

Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

Attachments-
as stated

Distribution:

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Attachment A

Teletype message, OUT No. 86702, dated 4 December 1963, filed at 1411 hours, to the White House, the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with copy to the Secret Service.

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey OSWALD

Records of the foreigners records office of the German Federal Republic in Cologne, Germany, show that Marina Nikolayevna Pusakova OSWALD crossed West Germany from East Germany to Holland on 3 June 1962. She traveled by rail, crossing into West Germany at Helmstedt on 3 June and entering Holland by rail at the Bentheim crossing point. She had West German visa 694/62 issued at the West Germany Embassy in Moscow. She listed her final destination as U.S.A. Comment: This confirms information from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow to the effect that the OSWALD family traveled from Moscow to Rotterdam by rail around 3 June 1962. Helmstedt and Bentheim are on the main rail route from Russia to Rotterdam. While Lee OSWALD himself and their infant daughter are not recorded in German records this is probably because little attention is paid to U.S. citizens and to infants in keeping travel records.

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Attachment B

Teletype message, OUT No. 87520, dated 6 December 1963, filed at 1829 hours, to the White House, the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with copy to the Secret Service.

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey OSWALD

Reference is made to our OUT telegram No. 86702 of 4 December 1963 which gave information on the travel of Marina OSWALD (and presumably also Lee Harvey OSWALD and their daughter) across West Germany on their return from the Soviet Union. Information now available from Dutch authorities seems to confirm this. On 3 June 1962 one M. OSWALD, listed as a male Russian citizen, entered The Netherlands by train at the Oldenzaal border point.

Comment: It is believed that the listing of this person as a male instead of female was just an error of the border officials. Note that Oldenzaal is opposite Bentheim, the German border point where Marina OSWALD left Germany.

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Attachment C

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Teletype message No. 85715, dated 29 November 1963, filed at 1340 hours, to the White House, the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with copy to the Secret Service.

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 Switzerland. (Headquarters comment: Probably referring to the Albert Schweitzer College in Switzerland with which he is known to have been in correspondence.)

b. 10 October 1959: According to the same official British travel records OSWALD left London this date by air for Helsinki.

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c. October 1959: Stockholm 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 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.

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d. 10 to 15 October 1959: According to a (very) reliable (but extremely sensitive) source OSWALD stayed at the Torn 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.

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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.

g. 1963: According to an extremely sensitive and reliable source, on 23 November Maria SNETHLAGE, head of the "Werkgroup Informatie Cuba" (Workgroup Information Cuba), told an employee of the Cuban Embassy in The Hague that she was sure she had met "that Mr. LEE is 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 comment: Please refer to our teletype Nos. 85182 and 85665 for additional information on GIBSON.) Later, SNETHLAGE told Castro Cubans in The Hague 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. SNETHLAGE 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, SNETHLAGE 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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Attachment D

Teletype No. 85182, dated 22 November 1963, filed at 1932 hours, to the White House, the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with copy to the Secret Service. (paraphrase)

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey OSWALD

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1. In conversation with a close friend in Bern, Switzerland, on 23 November 1963, Richard Thomas GIBSON remarked that OSWALD is "one of us". OSWALD and GIBSON had corresponded two years previously, and OSWALD had joined the Committee. (Comment: Reference is presumably to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.) GIBSON added that he had destroyed all his letters from OSWALD. OSWALD is crazy. GIBSON then remarked that he is happy that he was not in New York. He felt sorry for "LEE" in New York and for "TIBOR".

2. The information given above was supplied by an extremely sensitive source who is usually reliable.

3. According to other information that was available, Richard Thomas GIBSON, born 13 May 1931 in Los Angeles, California, is a negro journalist who has been active in the

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Fair Play for Cuba Committee since 1960. He has resided since April 1963 at Lausanne, Switzerland. In this latter country GIBSON has participated in the publication of La Revolution Africaine.

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Attachment E

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Teletype message, OUT No. 85665, 28 November 1963, filed at 1826 hours, to the White House, the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with copy to the Secret Service. (paraphrased)

1. Our station in The Hague has reported that on 23 November 1963, a local Castroite named Maria SNETHLAGE told Third Secretary Ricardo SANTOS of the Cuban Embassy in The Hague that she knew the "Mr. LEE" (sic) who murdered President Kennedy. She described "LEE" as a man full of hate and violence, and speculated that he had been "misused by a group". She said she had written to GIBSON (undoubtedly Richard GIBSON, U.S. citizen of Lausanne, Switzerland, born 13 May 1935, a Castro sympathizer, who had visited The Netherlands recently and had been in contact both with the Soviet Ambassador and the Cuban Embassy).

2. Later that same day Maria SNETHLAGE told Secretary SANTOS that "Mr. LEE of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee" had been slandered. The assassin had been another person, Lee OSWALD. SNETHLAGE is reported to have been in Cuba in January and again in May 1963.

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3. According to Dutch authorities on 7 November 1963, in talking about attacks by Cuban refugees against the Cuban mainland, SANTOS had replied "just wait and you will see what we can do. It will happen soon." Asked to be more precise, SANTOS had replied "just wait, just wait". SANTOS is reported to have a pro-Castro brother in the U.S.A.

4. A very sensitive source reports that after his conversations with SNETHLAGE, SANTOS was very angry because she had contacted him.

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Internal memo containing biographic information
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Document Number 626-820

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