

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : USIA
RECORD NUMBER : 1651000110035

RECORDS SERIES :
CASE FILES

AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : USIA
FROM :
TO :

TITLE :
JACOBS, JOHN KEDZIE

DATE : 12/05/67
PAGES : 5

SUBJECTS :
OSWALD, MARINA

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : U
RESTRICTIONS : 3
CURRENT STATUS : X
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 08/09/93

OPENING CRITERIA :
POSTPONED INDEFINATELY

COMMENTS :
This is a case/investigation file which refers to Marina Oswald.

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

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UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY
OFFICE OF SECURITY
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 5076

REPORT MADE AT Washington, D.C.	DATE WHEN MADE DEC 21 1967	INVESTIGATIVE DAYS 12/5,7,/67	REPORT MADE BY Paul J. Norton II:pc
TITLE JACOBS, John Kedzie		CHARACTER OF INVESTIGATION Employee - Debriefing	

SYNOPSIS:

When interviewed, Mr. JACOBS advised he traveled to Russia and Poland in his official capacity with the USIA as Editor of America Illustrated, during the period September 2 through 27, 1967. He was not subjected to provocation or involved in any untoward incidents, however, he did suggest an area of possible compromise that did not reach fruition in his case. Employee has been undergoing psychoanalysis since 1960 which he described as productive and rewarding for him. A medical release was furnished. He noted no additional association with Marina OSWALD, widow of Lee Harvey OSWALD, subsequent to her visit to his home during the winter of 1964. JACOBS denied ever having been a member of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions, or having been quoted in the Congressional Record as taking a stand concerning the Vietnam war. JACOBS has had no contact with Robert W. RUSHMORE for about five or six years.

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DETAILS:

BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION

Established procedure provides that officials of the USIA traveling in Communist bloc countries are routinely debriefed by IOS/I. Debriefing is designed to assess security measures from the standpoints of compliance as well as improved implementations of security procedures and requirements.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. John Kedzie JACOBS was interviewed at the Offices of IOS by Special Agents Paul J. NORTON II and Robert D. BARBER, on December 5, 1967.

APPROVED

Milton S. Mileski

Milton S. Mileski, Chief
Investigations Division

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He furnished the following information with respect to his official travel to Russia and Poland as Editor of the magazine, America Illustrated. JACOBS explained the purpose of his trip was to orient himself to those countries and to check on distribution of the magazine. He traveled alone, departing from Dullas International Airport. He arrived in Moscow on September 5, and remained there until about September 8, when he continued on to Kharkov. He remained at Kharkov until approximately September 12, when he departed for Yalta, via Semferopol. On approximately September 14, he departed for Mineralni Vodi, in the Caucasus. He then traveled to Moscow on September 16, where he remained until approximately September 18, at which time he departed for a week-end visit to Warsaw. While at Warsaw, he took a side trip to Wroclaw, returning to Warsaw on the 23rd of September. On September 25 he traveled to Prague for a two day visit and on September 27 he departed for London and his return trip to Washington.

Mr. JACOBS' official contacts with persons in the Soviet Union were confined to representatives of Soyuzpechat, the news distribution service in Russia. He talked also with officials of Novsti, which JACOBS explained was, in Moscow, the equivalent of the AP or UPI. His official contacts in Poland were with members of Ruch, the news distribution service of that country.

At his insistence, JACOBS was permitted to visit a collective farm in Russia. At first, his request was denied, however, due to his persistence, this tour eventually materialized and was set up for him by Novsti. JACOBS explained that he was met by a guide at Mineralni Vodi and the two of them traveled by automobile to the farm. He noted this was a six thousand acre farm with six thousand people assigned to work there. JACOBS recalled that a few weeks ago, an American Army Attache and a British Army Attache were reported to have been drugged and mistreated by Soviet Officials at a collective farm in Russia. JACOBS noted that in his own tour of the collective farm and in the tour by the Army Attaches, the farms had wineries as part of their operation. JACOBS went on to say that although he was not subjected to provocation and nothing untoward occurred in his case, he could appreciate how the Attaches could have been duped into a compromising situation. JACOBS related that during the afternoon of his tour of this farm, the Russians persistantly offered him samples of various vintages of wine. After touring the wine cellars,

JACOBS attended

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JACOBS attended a banquet where much food and more drink were served. The Employee advised that he has a liver condition which precludes him from using any alcoholic beverage and, therefore, he encountered no problem. He asserted, however, that the Russians were most insistent that he drink the wine and he viewed the entire arrangement as a perfect set-up for compromise. JACOBS noted that this information could serve as a warning to future travelers and might very well be an explanation as to what happened to the two Attaches above mentioned. JACOBS complained to his guide that he thought it was in extremely bad taste on the part of the Russian host. According to JACOBS, his guide agreed with him but commented he was, "under instructions" and could do nothing about it. JACOBS believed the guide was very naive and gave as an example the fact that he showed JACOBS the planned itinerary for the tour, something that is never done by knowledgeable tour guides in the USSR.

JACOBS advised that at no time was he ever arrested or detained by the police, nor did he experience any personal difficulty with authorities of the host government, other than as noted above. He had no contacts with any persons whom he knew or suspected of being intelligence operatives, not withstanding the fact that when traveling in those countries he had the "feeling" of being followed. He had no reason to believe he was a target for attempts at penetration or compromise.

JACOBS engaged in no illegal activities or transactions and has no outside business activities and/or investments in a foreign country.

JACOBS, as Editor of America Illustrated, was the recipient of gifts of books from Soviet Life editors and a book and a record from his Polish counterpart. In return, he gave to those people several books that are maintained in the USIA library, but which were completely non-political in nature.

At no time was JACOBS the victim of any attempts at blackmail, coercion or extortion. He is not engaged in any questionable activities or behavior which might prove embarrassing. He developed no association with anyone that might reflect adversely upon him.

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JACOBS performed no travel in any countries other than Poland or Russia during this trip. His only contacts with persons other than official counterparts involved a brief visit in Prague with friends of his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Alois KRUSINOVA. Mrs. (Eva) KRUSINOVA is secretary to a professor who is head of the English Department at the Universtiy of Prague. With the exception of bringing Mrs. KRUSINOVA's teenage son two pairs of blue jeans, JACOBS did not give or receive any gifts of a personal nature. JACOBS noted that blue jeans are very much the "in thing" in the Communist bloc countries at this particular time.

JACOBS informed that he took a number of photographs during his trip but he was extremely careful of all of his subjects and background material. He had no difficulty or problems concerning his photography. JACOBS has no knowledge of any serious misconduct on the part of other Americans that might make them vulnerable in any way, nor was he aware of any Poles or Communists having contact with any Americans. He was not contacted by any other U.S. Government Agencies in connection with his trip.

Prior to terminating the interview, Mr. JACOBS advised that since early 1960 he has been undergoing psychoanalysis in an effort to reduce nervous tension and to live more happily and productively. He averages about four visits a week with his psychoanalyst, whom he identified as Dr. Edward J. MORTELL, 1904 R Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Mr. JACOBS explained that in 1959 and 1960, he had many pressures exerted upon him through his job and he was beset with many anxieties. He realized he had a problem and, therefore, he spoke with Dr. Alex HALPRIN, a neighbor who is a practicing psychiatrist. In view of Mr. JACOB's financial responsibilities, Dr. HALPRIN suggested he undertake treatment under a clinic arrangement. JACOBS remarked that several members of his family also underwent analysis and he commented that his is now the happiest family on the block. He feels that this treatment has been very productive and rewarding for him and he is able to view the world and his responsibilities in their proper perspective. He advised he is still undergoing analysis and he does not currently foresee any termination date. He added, however, that he does not now feel his visits are a necessity, rather, at this time they are an extravagance. He averred that the financial aspect of all this treatment has been difficult but added that never in his life has he had any charge accounts and the only outstanding debt is his mortgage and his payments are current.

Reference was

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Reference was made to the visit of Mrs. Marina OSWALD, widow of Lee Harvey OSWALD, alleged assassin of President KENNEDY, with the JACOBS family. JACOBS asserted that since Mrs. OSWALD's completely unexpected visit at his home in the winter of 1964, neither he nor his wife has seen or heard from her.

Mr. JACOBS had no knowledge of his name ever having been entered into the Congressional Record. He has not communicated with any congressman or senator concerning the conduct of the Vietnam war or the administration's policies in Vietnam. He has never been connected in any way with the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions, and, in fact, had not even heard of that organization. The last time JACOBS had any contact with Robert W. RUSHMORE was approximately five or six years ago when RUSHMORE visited JACOBS' family and introduced his new wife to them. Mr. JACOBS concluded by stating that there is nothing in his background that could cause embarrassment to the Agency or that could be used as a means to coerce or blackmail him.

Initially, Mr. JACOBS expressed reservations in furnishing a release for record information. However, on December 8, 1967, he furnished a letter in which he gave his permission for his analyst to be interviewed. Mr. JACOB's letter has been made an enclosure to this report.

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Enclosure:

Authority for Release
of Record Information

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