

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

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AGENCY INFORMATION

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AGENCY FILE NUMBER :

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : NSA  
FROM : BEBB, GARDNER, BERRY, GENGLER  
TO :

~~[R]~~

TITLE :  
REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF MATERIAL RELATED TO LEE HARVEY OSWALD CASE

DATE : 06/15/64  
PAGES : 78

SUBJECTS :  
USE OF GRILLE SYSTEM/RUSS NOVEL "GLAZA KOTORYE SPRASHIVAYUT"  
LTR FOR THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION

DOCUMENT TYPE : MEMORANDUM  
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RESTRICTIONS : 1A  
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OPENING CRITERIA :  
ORIGINATING AGENCY'S DETERMINATION REQUIRED

COMMENTS :

Released on 11-02-2017 under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2017 Note)

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

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15 June 1964

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Report on Examination of Material  
Related to Lee Harvey Oswald Case

The undersigned have examined all the material relating to the Lee Harvey Oswald case provided to us by the Warren Commission and have found no indication that any of the items was used for a cryptographic purpose or for passing secret information:

a. A detailed examination of the dictionaries failed to show any indication that they had been used in connection with a dictionary code.

b. A review of the letters of all the correspondents related to the case, as well as of the Oswald Diary and other documents, provided no suggestion of the use of an open code.

c. Perforations which suggested the use of a grille system appeared on two pages of the Russian novel, GLAZA KOTORYE SPRASHIVAYUT, "Questioning Eyes". However, the manner of perforating only a few letters does not conform to any known system. For purposes of further study, we would like to obtain the original of the novel on long-term or permanent loan. We believe, nevertheless, that it is most likely that the letters were cut out for some purpose related to Oswald's photographic experiments.

d. The appearance of the term "micro dots" on page 44 of Lee Oswald's address book aroused our suspicions, particularly in that it was associated with the address of the photographic firm where he was once employed. There was nothing to indicate to us that micro dots were actually used and we have had to assume that appropriate technical tests were made by the FBI or CIA.

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e. Oswald's Soviet-made portable radio receiver and its associated power supply were examined and tested by R34 with negative results. The radio (for purposes of the tests the power supply was considered an integral part) conformed closely to one examined by the British in 1959. A copy of R34's findings is attached.

f. The names appearing in Lee's and Marina's address books have been checked against NSA files but no COMINT references have been discovered. Collateral references held in the files have only confirmed known information. A copy of the report is attached.

g. In addition to the information on the addresses developed in the personality check, a separate study of NSA address files is being made. While this study is not yet complete, results have so far been negative and there is no reason to expect that anything beyond what the personality check has already turned up will be discovered.

*Ruth F. Bebb*  
Ruth F. Bebb

*Carrie B. Berry*  
Carrie B. Berry

*Meredith K. Gardner*  
Meredith K. Gardner

*R. James Gengler*  
R. James Gengler

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~~SECRET~~

16 June 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. TORDELLA

SUBJECT: Letter for the President's Commission

1. Please note that I have eliminated two items from the original Memorandum for the Record on the examination of the Oswald materials. These are the reference to "micro dots" (paragraph d) and the COMINT reference in paragraph f.

2. I suggest that you informally (possibly by telephone) call the Commission's attention to the appearance of the term "micro dots" on page 44 of Oswald's address book. You might indicate that this reference aroused our suspicion but that we do not feel competent to make an exhaustive examination of the materials for the presence of micro dots - such examination should be conducted by the FBI or CIA. If micro dots are actually found, we would be happy to collaborate to the fullest degree required in the analysis of these dots.

3. I do not believe a statement that we have checked the names against the NSA files needs to be made since:

a. The results were negative and

b. It identifies the existence of sensitive COMINT records.

Of course, if we had found something, a positive report would have been required.

4. Mr. Arnold has reviewed the text of the letter and accepts it as unclassified under the circumstances.

FRANK B. ROWLETT  
Special Assistant to the Director

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The material relating to the Lee Harvey Oswald case provided by the Warren Commission was examined and there was no indication that any of the items were used for a cryptographic purpose or for passing secret information.

President's Commission on the  
Assassination of President Kennedy  
200 Maryland Avenue N.E.,  
Washington, D. C. 20002  
ATTN: Mr. J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Skilled cryptologists at NSA carefully examined the materials relating to the Lee Harvey Oswald case provided by the Warren Commission. The results are as follows:

- a. A detailed examination of the two dictionaries revealed no indication of their use for cryptographic purposes.
- b. In the correspondence, the Oswald Diary, and the other documents examined there were no evidences of the use of any type of cryptography, to include the use of an open code.
- c. Certain letters had been removed from pages 150 and 152 of the Russian novel, GLAZA KOTORYE SPRASHIVAYUT, "Questioning Eyes." Eight letters had apparently been cut from page 152 as follows:

Line 10	E
Line 11	Φ, C
Line 13	E
Line 16	Φ
Line 24	E
Line 26	K
Line 27	B

One letter had been removed from page 150; however no significance is attributed to the removal of this letter since it corresponds in exact

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position to one of the letters removed from page 152. It was concluded that this letter had been accidentally removed by the cutting process applied to page 152 and that its removal resulted from the application of excessive pressure on the cutting tool when the letter on page 152 was taken out.

The sample is considered too small for any valid conclusions to be reached as to the purposes for which the above noted letters were removed. It is considered most unlikely that this process of letter removal has any cryptographic implication.

d. The Russian "Tourist" portable radio was examined for cryptologic evidence. The radio appears to be a normal receiver and there was no evidence of its use for any other purpose.

e. The names appearing in Lee's and Marina's address books were checked. No evidence of cryptologic implication was found.

Although the results of the examination of the materials provided by the Commission are essentially negative, further study of these materials will be made. If any results are obtained, the Commission will be advised. However, it is considered most unlikely that anything beyond what is reported above will be discovered.

Sincerely,

GORDON A. BLAKE  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Director

## ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

Date

4 Jan 80

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number,  
building, Agency/Post)

Initials

Date

1.

Betty Wyanat

(Betty Wanat)

2.

D40/AHA

3.

4.

5.

Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

## REMARKS

Attached is the report we did on checking the Oswald Papers for the Warren Commission. I suspect its the only copy. The handwritten date (over)

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)

Room No.—Bldg.

Jim Gengler

Phone No.

5041-102

RAYMOND J. GENGLER

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)

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FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206



is the correct one.  
I added it at the  
time.

A