
Agency Information

AGENCY : SSCIA
RECORD NUMBER : 157-10014-10168

RECORD SERIES : MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS OF THE CHURCH COMMITTEE

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 07-M-73

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : SSCIA
FROM :
TO :

TITLE : REFERENCES TO FBI REVIEW OF TAPES OF OSWALD'S OCT. 1, 1963 MEXICO CITY
CONVERSATION

DATE : 03/05/1976
PAGES : 27

SUBJECTS :

OSWALD, LEE, POST-RUSSIAN PERIOD, TRAVEL, TRIP TO
MEXICO CITY
FBI

DOCUMENT TYPE : MEMORANDUM
CLASSIFICATION : Secret
RESTRICTIONS : Consulted
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 01/08/1999

OPENING CRITERIA :

COMMENTS : CCBOX 354

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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CURRENT STATUS : POSTPONED IN FULL
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COMMENTS : CCBOX 354

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

R 2729

Box 354

1 of 3

SECRET

March 5, 1976

To: Senators Schweiker and Hart

From: Staff

Re: References to FBI Review of Tapes of Oswald's October 1, 1963
Mexico City Conversation

On February 19, 1976, the staff received a November 23, 1963, Bureau memorandum which Hoover forwarded to President Johnson under cover letter of even date explaining that the memorandum set forth "the results of the Bureau's inquiry into the assassination of President Kennedy and background information relative to Lee Harvey Oswald."* In relevant part the memorandum states:

The CIA advised that on October 1, 1963, an extremely sensitive source had reported that an individual identified himself as Lee Oswald, who contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City inquiring as to any messages. Special Agents of this Bureau, who have conversed with Oswald in Dallas, Texas, have observed photographs of the individual referred to above, and have listened to a recording of his voice. These special agents are of the opinion that the above-referred-to individual was not Lee Harvey Oswald.

You are aware of the significance of this language. You are also aware that the stated position of the CIA --as reflected in the testimony of David Phillips and contemporaneous CIA cables -- has always been that the actual tape recording of this conversation was erased sometime in October of 1963.

* A copy of this memorandum is attached at Tab. On February 2, 1976, the Bureau delivered us a copy of a 11/25/63 Legat Cablegram which is attached at Tab, along with the more complete version that was furnished to us on February 24. You will note that the references to the Oswald tapes and their erasure on page two of the cablegram were deleted from the copy we first received.

By letter dated February 19, 1976, we asked the Bureau to deliver "all materials pertaining to the receipt, analysis, review and present whereabouts of the voice recording" referred to on page five of Mr. Hoover's report to the President. The Bureau's response, dated February 24, 1976, stated, "The recording in question was never in the possession of the FBI and was not listened to by FBI agents."* Prior to receipt of this response the staff met with the agents responsible for its preparation. The agents then showed us an unexcised copy of the attached November 23, 1963, teletype from SAC Dallas (Tab) which advised that "the actual tape from which this transcript was made has been erased," and the November 25, 1963, cablegram from Legat to Headquarters which in relevant part reads "Tapes obtained by [deletion] here erased after two weeks following making of typewritten transcripts of contents of these tapes. There appears to be some confusion in that no tapes were taken to Dallas but only typewritten transcripts supplied by CIA, the tapes not being available because they had been erased." (Memorandum attached at Tab.)

The staff submits that the matter is not as simple as the Bureau asserts. Attached at Tab is a Belmont to Sullivan, November 23, 1963, memorandum in which Belmont recounts his 11:50 a.m. telephone conversation with SAC Gordon Shanklin. In the second paragraph, Belmont states:

* A copy of said response is attached hereto at Tab.

Inasmuch as the Dallas agents who listened to the tape of the conversation allegedly of Oswald from the [deletion] and examined the photographs of the visitor [deletion] and were of the opinion that neither the tape nor the photograph pertained to Oswald. . . .

On November 25, 1963--some two days after Dallas cabled the Bureau that the tapes had been erased--Bureau supervisor Burt Turner cabled Legat stating:

If tapes covering any contacts subject with Soviet or Cuban embassies available forward to Bureau for laboratory examination and analysis together with transcript. Include tapes previously reviewed Dallas if they were returned to you.

As noted previously, Legat replied later that day to the effect that the tapes had been erased.

It is unclear as to how Shanklin learned on November 23, 1963, that the Oswald tape had been erased. CIA documents reflect that it was not until after 5 p.m. on November 23, 1963, that Agency headquarters cabled its station in Mexico City inquiring as to whether the original tapes were available. David Phillips recalls that this inquiry precipitated CIA station's search for the tapes which confirmed the fact that they had been erased. Agency headquarters was so informed on November 24, 1963.

Neither Gordon Shanklin nor Elbert Rudd [the Special Agent then assigned to Legat, Mexico, who personally delivered the alleged Oswald photograph to Dallas on November 22, 1963] recall ever having been aware of a tape recording (alleged or otherwise)

of Oswald's voice.* Shanklin cannot explain the statements set forth in Belmont's memorandum.

* Telephonic staff interviews of Shanklin and Rudd, on March 4, 1976. Unfortunately, Mr. Belmont cannot be contacted as he has been seriously ill for quite some time.

1 - Belmont 161
1 - Rosen

11-25-63

CODE

CABLEGRAM

1 - Sullivan
1 - DE Moore
URGENT 1 - Branigan
IMMEDIATE 1 - Turner

TO LEGAT MEXICO *This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.*
FROM DIRECTOR

LUE HARVEY OSWALD, IS - R.

IMPERATIVE EXPLORE ALL ASPECTS SUBJECT'S CONNECTION AND CONTACTS WITH RUSSIANS TO EVALUATE POSSIBILITY RUSSIAN DIRECTION ASSASSINATION. PROMPTLY CONSULT LOCAL CIA REPRESENTATIVE AND SUCAB SUMMARY ALL INFORMATION RE SUBJECT'S TRIP MEXICO SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, ONE NINE SIX THREE, INCLUDING METHOD OF ENTRY AND EXIT, RESIDENCES, CONTACTS, ET CETERA. FOLLOW WITH DETAILED MEMORANDUM CIA ALERTED. IF TAPES COVERING ANY CONTACTS SUBJECT WITH SOVIET OR CUBAN EMBASSIES AVAILABLE FORWARD TO BUREAU FOR LABORATORY EXAMINATION AND ANALYSIS TOGETHER WITH TRANSCRIPT. INCLUDE TAPES PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED DALLAS IF THEY WERE RETURNED TO YOU. SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO ANY INTERVIEWS OR FURTHER INVESTIGATION IN MEXICO TO ESTABLISH OR REFUTE SOVIET ^{OR CUBAN} DIRECTION.

Foreign Liaison Unit (Route thru for review)

VIA CABLEGRAM

EXCISIONS TO PRESERVE CRYPTOGRAPHIC INTEGRITY

TO: WASH DC (100-441100) FROM: MEXICO CITY (100-102 AND 115)

URGENT 11-25-64
DIRECTOR

MEXICO CITY (100-102 AND 115)

RE: HARRY GOLD, IS - R.

REMISSA YOUR. FOLLOWING SUMMARY SUBMITTED TO DIRECTOR FOR INSTRUCTIONS THEREIN.

SUBJECT ENTERED MEXICO AT NUEVO LAREDO SEPTEMBER 15 LAST, USING MEXICAN 15 DAY TOURIST CARD ISSUED SEPTEMBER 15 LAST AT MEXICAN CONSULATE GENERAL NEW ORLEANS.

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION INSPECTOR WHO ADMITTED SUBJECT TO MEXICO SEPTEMBER 15 INTERVIEWED TODAY BY LAREDO RESIDENT AGENT. IN 1964 HAD NO INDEPENDENT RECOLLECTION OF SUBJECT. SUBJECT MAY HAVE BEEN IN COMPANY OF YOUNG AMERICAN COUPLE. EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF RECORDS OF MEXICAN ONLY ONE YOUNG AMERICAN COUPLE FOUND BY NAME OF SUBJECT WITH THAT OF SUBJECT. INTERVIEW OF THIS COUPLE, BILL AND ELAINE ALLEN OF MIAMI, HAS BEEN REQUESTED OF MIAMI BY SAN ANTONIO.

CONTINUING SEARCH OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION RECORDS TO DATE HAS FAILED TO DISCLOSE METHOD OF TRAVEL UTILIZED BY SUBJECT TO PROCEED FROM NUEVO LAREDO TO MEXICO CITY, IT BEING NOTED THESE RECORDS ARE POORLY PREPARED AND POORLY MAINTAINED.

DISCREET INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY THROUGH SOURCES AND CONTACTS TO ASCERTAIN WHERE SUBJECT STAYED AMONG MEXICO CITY'S 1,500 POSSIBLE LODGING PLACES.

INVESTIGATION HAS ESTABLISHED SUBJECT DEPARTED MEXICO NUEVO LAREDO OCTOBER 3 LAST. INVESTIGATION HAS FAILED TO ESTABLISH HIS METHOD OF TRAVEL FROM MEXICO CITY TO NUEVO LAREDO AND MEXICAN DO

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FEB 27 1976

FBI

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

TELEGRAM TO CABLEGRAM TO RADIO TO TELETYPE

PAGE THREE

FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY

NO. 102 & 103

SILVIA TERADO DE DURAN WHO IS A MEXICAN CITIZEN EMPLOYEE OF THE
EMBASSY HERE AND IDENTICAL WITH SILVIA DURAN, ABOVE, WAS INTERVIEWED
EFFECTIVELY NOVEMBER 23 LAST BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES OF THEIR OWN
VOLITION. SHE IDENTIFIED OSWALD FROM PRESS PHOTOS AS PERSON WHO
CAME TO AT CUBAN EMBASSY HERE LATE SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER TO
APPLY FOR A CUBAN TRANSIT VISA, STATING HE HAD A RUSSIAN WIFE AND
WANTED TO RETURN TO SOVIET UNION VIA CUBA. DURAN CLAIMED SUBJECT
IN POSSESSION OF AMERICAN PASSPORT WHICH WAS EXAMINED BY HER TO
ASCERTAIN WHETHER IT CONTAINED SOVIET VISA. SHE SAID PASSPORT DID
NOT CONTAIN SUCH A VISA AND SHE ADVISED SUBJECT HE WOULD HAVE TO
OBTAIN A SOVIET VISA BEFORE HE COULD BE ISSUED CUBAN TRANSIT VISA.
SHE STATED SUBJECT HAD CONSIDERABLE ARGUMENT WITH HER AND CUBAN
CONSUL EUSEBIO AZCUE OVER THIS MATTER. SHE PUT SUBJECT IN TOUCH
WITH SOVIET EMBASSY AND IN A LATER CONTACT HE MADE AT CUBAN EMBASSY
HE TOLD THEM HE HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING SOVIET VISA.

ACCORDING TO CIA, SILVIA DURAN IS A COMMUNIST AND DURING TIME
CARLOS LECHUGA, PRESENT CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO UN, SERVED HERE AS CUBAN
AMBASSADOR DURAN WAS NOT ONLY HIS SECRETARY BUT ALSO HIS MISTRESS.

GIST OF STORY OF DURAN CONCERNING SUBJECT'S VISIT TO MEXICO PUBLISHED
TODAY IN MEXICO CITY NEWSPAPER "EXCELSIOR" AND BELIEVED TO
HAVE BEEN LEAKED BY SOME HIGH MEXICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, POSSIBLY
IN EFFORT TO SHOW SOLE PURPOSE OF SUBJECT'S TRIP TO MEXICO WAS TO

RECEIVED FROM

FEB 27 1976

FBI

DELETIONS INVOLVE
SENSITIVE TECHNIQUE
IN FOREIGN COUNTER-
INTELLIGENCE FIELD.

If the information contained in this document is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is requested that it be paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

3

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Holmes
Miss Gandy

TELEGRAM OR CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

PAGE FOUR FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY FEB. 102 4 103

OBTAIN VISAS AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. IT IS UNDERSTOOD FROM EMBASSY SOURCES THAT THIS STORY HAS BEEN PICKED UP BY NEW YORK NEWSPAPERS AND WILL PROBABLY BE PUBLISHED THERE TOMORROW.

EVERY AVAILABLE STEP BEING TAKEN HERE TO FILL IN DETAILS OF SUBJECT'S ACTIVITIES WHILE HERE. ALL KEY CONTACTS IN POLICE AND MEXICAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY INFO ALONG THESE LINES THEY MAY RECEIVE AS RESULT OF POLICING GIVEN SUBJECT.

IF NOT ALREADY DONE SUSPECT BUREAU CHECK STATE DEPARTMENT RECORDS TO DETERMINE WHETHER NEW PASSPORT ISSUED TO SUBJECT SINCE HIS RETURN TO MEXICO IN 1952 SINCE IT IS BELIEVED PASSPORT ISSUED TO HIM IN MEXICO VALID ONLY FOR RETURN U.S. IT IS BELIEVED PASSPORT OF HIS LATER PASSPORT SHOULD ALSO BE ASCERTAINED. IF NOT ALREADY DONE, NEW ORLEANS SHOULD CONTACT MEXICAN CONSULATE AND OBTAIN NAMES AND IDENTITIES OF PERSONS WHO SECURED MEXICAN TOURIST CARDS THERE ON SEPTEMBER 17 LAST, DATE SUBJECT ISSUED HIS MEXICAN TOURIST CARD. THERE IS REMOTE POSSIBILITY SOME OF THESE PERSONS MAY HAVE TRAVELED TO MEXICO WITH SUBJECT.

AMBASSADOR HERE FEELS SOVIETS MUCH TOO SOPHISTICATED TO PARTICIPATE IN DIRECTION OF ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT BY SUBJECT BUT THINKS CUBANS STUPID ENOUGH TO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SUCH DIRECTION EVEN TO EXTENT OF HIRING SUBJECT. IF THIS SHOULD BE THE CASE, IT WOULD APPEAR LIKELY THAT CONTRACT WOULD HAVE BEEN MADE WITH SUBJECT IN U.S. AND PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP TO MEXICO WAS TO SET UP GETAWAY ROUTE.

REC'D FROM

FEB 27 1976

FBI

2

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DECODED COPY

PROGRAM CABLEGRAM RADIO TELETYPE

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

PAGE FIVE FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY NO. 182 3-100

SUBJECT MAY DESIRE TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO POLLING ALL CUBAN SOURCES IN U.S. IN EFFORT CONFIRM OR REFUTE THIS THEORY.

DETAILED INFO WILL BE SUBMITTED IN FIRST AVAILABLE FORM IN NOVEMBER OR NEXT. COPY OF MEXICAN TOURIST CARD ISSUED SUBJECT WILL BE FORWARDED AT SAME TIME FOR POSSIBLE COMPARISON OF SIGNATURE ON THIS CARD WITH KNOWN SIGNATURE OF SUBJECT IN ORDER TO DEFINITELY ESTABLISH IF WAS PERSON TO WHOM THE CARD WAS ISSUED IN HIS NAME IN NEW ORLEANS.

BUREAU REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY FURNISH ANY INFO DEVELOPED IN U.S. INVESTIGATION WHICH WOULD SERVE AS LEADS TO VERIFY SUBJECT'S ACTIVITIES HERE, INCLUDING ANY LONG DISTANCE CALLS MADE TO MEXICO OR RELATIVES OF SUBJECT WHILE HERE.

CLATE DL ANDERSON

RECEIVED:

11-25-65

7:17 AM

ENT

ALL INFORMATION

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RECEIVED
FEB 27 1976
FBI

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☐ AIRGRAM ☐ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☒ TELETYPE

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

URGENT 11-23-63 7:23 PM CST EEA
TO DIRECTOR
FROM SAC DALLAS 232220

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY. RE TELEPHONIC
REQUEST OF MR. MALLEY.

SET FORTH HEREINAFTER IS TRANSCRIPT OF CONVERSATION RECEIVED BY LEGAT MEXICO FROM CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE, WHICH IS CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE ACTUAL TAPE FROM WHICH THIS TRANSCRIPT WAS MADE HAS BEEN ERASED.

DELETIONS
INVOLVE
SENSITIVE
TECHNIQUE
IN FOREIGN
COUNTER-
INTELLIGENCE
FIELD.

FEB 27 1976

FBI

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: November 23, 1963

FROM : Mr. Belmont

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS

Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

At 11:50 a.m., I called SAC Shanklin at Dallas and suggested that in view of the importance of determining whether the subject, Oswald, took a trip into Mexico and was in touch with the Cuban and Soviet Embassies in Mexico City, we should attempt to check the entry points at the Mexican border to determine whether there is a record of his travel. I pointed out that ~~there is a record of his travel~~ ~~he said he was unable to remain over fifteen days in Mexico~~ due to Mexican restrictions and would have to use his real name if he went back. Dallas will see that this check is made at the border.

ALL
DELETIONS
INVOLVE
SENSITIVE
TECHNIQUE
IN FOREIGN
COUNTER-
INTELLIGENCE
FIELD.

Inasmuch as the Dallas Agents who listened to the tape of the conversation allegedly of Oswald from the ~~San Antonio~~ ~~San Antonio~~ and examined the photographs of the visitor ~~to the San Antonio~~ and were of the opinion that neither the tape nor the photograph pertained to Oswald, I requested Shanklin to immediately send a photograph of Oswald to our Legal Attache. This will be done by Agent Rudd who is returning to Mexico City by air. ~~Our~~ in Mexico should check the photographs of Oswald against visitors ~~to the San Antonio~~ to see if they can identify him. Further, ~~our~~ should attempt to identify the photograph of ~~the visitor~~ to the ~~San Antonio~~ on October 1, 1963, inasmuch as he may have been a messenger or associate of Oswald. Particularly, they should try to see if he is an employee of the Cuban Embassy.

Relative to the Post Office box in Dallas to which the rifle was shipped from Chicago, I told Shanklin to be sure that the application for the box and any other correspondence dealing with the box was secured from the Post Office Department and sent in here for handwriting examination to further tie it in to Oswald.

- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

AHB:LS
(7)

REC-54

FEB 27 1966

NOV 27 1963

B-1

November 23, 1963

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20501

My dear Mr. President:

There are enclosed the results of our inquiry into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and background information relative to Lee Harvey Oswald. — Summary

Additional information with respect to this matter will be furnished to you when available.

Respectfully submitted,

Enclosure

REC-107

62-109060 433

DEC 2 1963

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

DEC 3 1963

C 4 1363

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. It is limited to official proceedings by Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized persons without the express approval of the FBI.

November 23, 1963

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 22, 1963

President John F. Kennedy was shot and killed by an unknown assailant at approximately 12:30 p. m., November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas. Investigation was immediately instituted in an effort to identify and apprehend the person responsible for this assassination.

At approximately 2:00 p. m., information was received that a suspicious person had entered the Texas Theater which is located about six tenths of a mile from the four hundred block of East 10th Street in Dallas where J. D. Tippitt, a Dallas Police Department patrolman had been shot and killed about 1:13 p. m. Officers of the Dallas Police Department and FBI Agents converged on the theater and took into custody Lee Harvey Oswald who resisted arrest and attempted to fire a .38 caliber revolver which was taken from his person.

State complaints were filed on November 22, 1963, charging Oswald with the murder of President Kennedy and Patrolman Tippitt.

Investigation has established that Oswald was employed at the Texas School Book Depository which has been identified as the building from which the fatal shots were fired at the President. A fellow employee stated he took Oswald to work on the morning of November 22, 1963, at which time Oswald was carrying a package of sufficient length to contain a disassembled rifle and which Oswald said consisted of curtain rods. Oswald was observed on the fifth floor of the building in which he was employed at approximately 11:50 a. m., November 22, 1963. Oswald was again observed inside the building shortly after the shooting but could not be found thereafter. Another fellow employee stated shots were fired "right over his head" while this employee was watching the car occupied by President Kennedy passing in front of the building. A witness to the shooting stated that the shots were fired by

FDT:LS

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

63-10706-433
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ENCLOSURE

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

a white man from a window on the sixth floor of the building in which Oswald was employed. This witness later selected Oswald in a line-up as the person who resembled the individual he observed fire the rifle from the window. The witness could not make a positive identification. Mrs. Earlene Roberts, 1026 North Beckley Street in Dallas, stated Oswald, using the name of O. H. Lee, had lived at her residence since October 14, 1963, and at about 1:00 p.m., November 22, 1963, came to her residence, picked up a jacket and left hurriedly.

A 6.5 caliber Italian carbine rifle with a four-power scope was found on the sixth floor of the building in which Oswald was employed and from which the shots at the President were fired. Investigation by our Chicago Office has revealed that a weapon of this description and identical serial number was sold to one A. Hidell, Post Office Box 2915, Dallas, Texas, on March 28, 1963, for \$21.45. This Post Office Box at that time was rented by Mrs. Lee H. Oswald, believed to be the mother of suspect. Oswald, at the time of his arrest, had in his possession a Selective Service card in the name of Alex Hidell. The recovered rifle as well as the .38 caliber revolver taken from Oswald, were immediately brought to the FBI Laboratory for examination.

It was determined that a bullet found on one of the stretchers at the hospital following the admittance of President Kennedy had been fired from the rifle referred to above. Examination also identified two bullet fragments found in the Presidential car as having been fired from this same weapon. Other examinations in the FBI Laboratory are continuing.

A brown paper bag possibly used to carry the rifle was found near the window on the sixth floor of the building from which the shots were fired. A latent fingerprint developed on this bag by the FBI Identification Division was identified with the left index finger impression of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

With respect to background information concerning Oswald, his birth date has been verified at New Orleans, Louisiana, as October 13, 1939. He attended high school at Fort Worth, Texas, and according to records of the Office of Naval Intelligence, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at Dallas, Texas, on October 24, 1956, for a three-year term. He was released to inactive duty on September 11, 1959, but his military obligation continued until December 3, 1962.

According to information received from the State Department, he indicated to the American Embassy in Moscow on October 31, 1959, that he wished to renounce his American citizenship. He claimed at the time that he had been a radar operator in the Marine Corps and had told Soviet officials that if he were granted Soviet citizenship, he would make known information concerning the Marine Corps, which was in his possession. On this occasion he declared, "I am a Marxist." The United Press on November 15, 1959, reported that Soviet authorities had refused to grant Oswald Soviet citizenship, but would permit him to live in Russia as a resident alien.

Office of Naval Intelligence reported that Oswald had been undesirably discharged from the Marine Corps Reserve on August 17, 1960.

On January 30, 1961, Oswald corresponded with the then Secretary of the Navy John B. Connally, with respect to his undesirable discharge requesting that appropriate action be taken to change his status and indicating he intended to return to this country. This was followed by a letter dated March 22, 1962, directed to Assistant Director of Personnel, Brigadier General Tompkins, United States Marine Corps, at which time he made a similar complaint.

Information has likewise been received from the Office of Senator John C. Tower (Republican - Texas) that during 1961 Oswald had requested that Senator Tower intercede in his behalf with Soviet authorities, so that they would allow him to return to the United States.

According to information received from the State Department on May 17, 1962, Oswald and his wife, a Soviet citizen, had been granted exit permits to leave Russia, and the State Department had given approval for their travel to the United States accompanied by an infant child.

3

FBI

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

Oswald was interviewed by Special Agents of this Bureau at Fort Worth, Texas, on June 23, 1962, at which time he was curt, sullen and arrogant. He declined to answer questions as to why he made the trip to Russia or his experiences while there. He indicated that he had been employed as a sheet metal worker in a television factory and admired the Russian form of Government. He claimed familiarity with the theories of Karl Marx, but denied being a member of the Communist Party or having renounced his United States citizenship. According to Oswald, the Soviets never attempted to obtain information from him nor did he make any deals with the Soviets in order to obtain permission to return to the United States. He disclaimed any affiliation with Soviet intelligence.

Upon reinterview on August 16, 1962, he acknowledged recently visiting the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C., but indicated his visit was solely to register his wife's current address as required by Soviet law. He again denied requesting revocation of his United States citizenship or allegiance to the Soviet Government.

According to information developed by this Bureau, Oswald was arrested on August 9, 1963, for disturbing the peace in New Orleans, Louisiana, as a result of distributing a pamphlet for an organization known as "Fair Play for Cuba." He pleaded guilty and elected to pay a fine of \$10.

Oswald was interviewed on August 10, 1962, at which time he indicated he was unemployed and had been in New Orleans for approximately four months. While there he read literature distributed by the Fair Play for Cuba Committee which he considered not to be communist dominated or controlled. He corresponded with the Committee at 709 Broadway, New York City, and paid a \$5.00 membership fee. He received a membership card in the New Orleans chapter dated June 6, 1963, signed A. J. Hidell.

The Fair Play for Cuba Committee is a pro-Castro organization founded during the Spring of 1960, whose function is to propagandize the Castro regime.

The Central Intelligence Agency advised that on October 1, 1963, an extremely sensitive source had reported that an individual identified himself as Lee Oswald, who contacted the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City

4 131

Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

inquiring as to any messages. Special Agents of this Bureau, who have conversed with Oswald in Dallas, Texas, have observed photographs of the individual referred to above and have listened to a recording of his voice. These Special Agents are of the opinion that the above-referred-to individual was not Lee Harvey Oswald.

A highly confidential source of this Bureau advised that an individual identifying himself as Oswald on November 13, 1963, was in contact with the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C., at which time he referred to a recent meeting with Comrade Kostin at the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City. This individual indicated that he originally intended to visit the Embassy in Havana, Cuba, where he would have had time to complete his business, but that he had been unable to do so. He furnished his address as Box 625, Dallas, Texas, and claimed to be the husband of Marina Nikolsavna Oswald, a Soviet citizen and father of Audrey Marina Oswald, born October 20, 1963, at Dallas, Texas.

Oswald during previous interviews with FBI Agents claimed to have married his wife, Marina Nikoleavna Oswald, nee Prusakova, at Minsk, Russia, on April 30, 1961. He likewise claimed an American passport, number D092526, issued at New Orleans, Louisiana, on June 25, 1963, for proposed travel of three months to one year as a tourist to England, France, Germany, Holland, USSR, Finland, Italy, and Poland. He indicated an intention to depart from New Orleans during the latter part of 1963.

Additional information developed by this Bureau indicated one Lee Oswald during September, 1962, was a subscriber to "The Worker" an east coast communist newspaper.

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson

I called Legat Anderson at Mexico City at 12:40 p.m. and advised him that Agent Rudd was bringing back the photographs of Oswald and that he should have ~~make~~ make the checks to see if they could identify Oswald's photograph and further identify the photograph of the ~~version~~ of October 1. I also told Anderson to be sure that hotels, etc. were checked in Mexico City for possible registration of Oswald under his true name or any of his aliases. Anderson said this is being done.

DELETIONS INVOLVE
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IN FOREIGN COUNTER-
INTELLIGENCE FIELD.

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FEB 27 1976

- 2 -

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F. Loach _____
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☐ AIRGRAM ☒ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

VE URGENT 11-25-63

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY

NO. 182 AND 183

LEE HARVEY OSWALD, IS - R.

REBUCAS TODAY. FOLLOWING SUMMARY SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE INSTRUCTIONS THEREIN.

SUBJECT ENTERED MEXICO AT NUEVO LAREDO SEPTEMBER 26 LAST, USING MEXICAN 15 DAY TOURIST CARD ISSUED SEPTEMBER 17 LAST BY MEXICAN CONSULATE GENERAL NEW ORLEANS.

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION INSPECTOR WHO ADMITTED SUBJECT TO MEXICO SEPTEMBER 26 INTERVIEWED TODAY BY LAREDO RESIDENT AGENT. INSPECTOR HAD NO INDEPENDENT RECOLLECTION BUT THOUGHT SUBJECT MAY HAVE BEEN IN COMPANY OF YOUNG AMERICAN COUPLE. EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH OF RECORDS DISCLOSED ONLY ONE YOUNG AMERICAN COUPLE WHOSE ENTRY MAY HAVE COINCIDED WITH THAT OF SUBJECT. INTERVIEW OF THIS COUPLE, BILL AND ELAINE ALLEN OF MIAMI, HAD BEEN REQUESTED OF MIAMI BY SAN ANTONIO.

CONTINUING SEARCH OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION RECORDS TO DATE HAS FAILED TO DISCLOSE METHOD OF TRAVEL UTILIZED BY SUBJECT TO PROCEED FROM NUEVO LAREDO TO MEXICO CITY, IT BEING NOTED THESE RECORDS ARE POORLY PREPARED AND POORLY MAINTAINED.

DISCREET INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY THROUGH SOURCES AND CONTACTS TO ASCERTAIN WHERE SUBJECT STAYED AMONG MEXICO CITY'S 1,600 POSSIBLE LODGING PLACES.

INVESTIGATION HAS ESTABLISHED SUBJECT DEPARTED MEXICO NUEVO LAREDO OCTOBER 3 LAST. INVESTIGATION HAS FAILED TO ESTABLISH HIS METHOD OF TRAVEL FROM MEXICO CITY TO NUEVO LAREDO AND MEXICAN IM-

REC-12

REL. TEL. NO. FOR THE DIRECTOR

DEC 30 1963

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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PAGE TWO

FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY

NO. 182 & 183

IMMIGRATION INSPECTOR HANDLING HIS EXIT, INTERVIEWED TODAY BY LAREDO
 R., HAD NO RECOLLECTION WHATSOEVER OF SUBJECT OR HIS MEANS OF TRAVEL.

THIRD AGENCY INFORMATION

EXCISIONS PER 3RD AGENCY REQUEST

If the information contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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THIRD AGENCY INFORMATION

SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN WHO IS A MEXICAN CITIZEN EMPLOYEE OF CUBAN EMBASSY HERE AND IDENTICAL WITH SILVIA DURAN, ABOVE, WAS INTERVIEWED EXTENSIVELY NOVEMBER 23 LAST BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES OF THEIR OWN VOLITION. SHE IDENTIFIED OSWALD FROM PRESS PHOTOS AS PERSON WHO CALLED AT CUBAN EMBASSY HERE LATE SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER TO APPLY FOR A CUBAN TRANSIT VISA, STATING HE HAD A RUSSIAN WIFE AND DESIRED TO RETURN TO SOVIET UNION VIA CUBA. DURAN CLAIMED SUBJECT IN POSSESSION OF AMERICAN PASSPORT WHICH WAS EXAMINED BY HER TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER IT CONTAINED SOVIET VISA. SHE SAID PASSPORT DID NOT CONTAIN SUCH A VISA AND SHE ADVISED SUBJECT HE WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN A SOVIET VISA BEFORE HE COULD BE ISSUED CUBAN TRANSIT VISA. SHE STATED SUBJECT HAD CONSIDERABLE ARGUMENT WITH HER AND CUBAN CONSUL EUSEBIO AZCUE OVER THIS MATTER. SHE PUT SUBJECT IN TOUCH WITH SOVIET EMBASSY AND IN A LATER CONTACT HE MADE AT CUBAN EMBASSY HE TOLD THEM HE HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING SOVIET VISA.

ACCORDING TO CIA, SILVIA DURAN IS A COMMUNIST AND DURING TIME CARLOS LECHUGA, PRESENT CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO UN, SERVED HERE AS CUBAN AMBASSADOR DURAN WAS NOT ONLY HIS SECRETARY BUT ALSO HIS MISTRESS.

GIST OF STORY OF DURAN CONCERNING SUBJECT'S VISIT TO MEXICO PUBLISHED TODAY IN MEXICO CITY NEWSPAPER "EXCELSIOR" AND BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LEAKED BY SOME HIGH MEXICAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, POSSIBLY IN EFFORT TO SHOW SOLE PURPOSE OF SUBJECT'S TRIP TO MEXICO WAS TO

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems. 28

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PAGE FOUR FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY NO. 182 & 183

OBTAIN VISAS AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. IT IS UNDERSTOOD FROM EMBASSY SOURCES THAT THIS STORY HAS BEEN PICKED UP BY NEW YORK NEWSPAPERS AND WILL PROBABLY BE PUBLISHED THERE TOMORROW.

EVERY AVAILABLE STEP BEING TAKEN HERE TO FILL IN DETAILS OF SUBJECT'S ACTIVITIES WHILE HERE. ALL KEY CONTACTS IN POLICE AND MEXICAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY INFO ALONG THESE LINES THEY MAY RECEIVE AS RESULT OF PUBLICITY GIVEN SUBJECT.

IF NOT ALREADY DONE SUGGEST BUREAU CHECK STATE DEPARTMENT RECORDS TO DETERMINE WHETHER NEW PASSPORT ISSUED TO SUBJECT SINCE HIS RETURN FROM RUSSIA IN 1962 SINCE IT IS BELIEVED PASSPORT ISSUED TO HIM IN MOSCOW VALID ONLY FOR RETURN U.S. IT IS BELIEVED WHEREABOUTS OF THIS LATTER PASSPORT SHOULD ALSO BE ASCERTAINED. IF NOT ALREADY DONE, NEW ORLEANS SHOULD CONTACT MEXICAN CONSULATE AND OBTAIN NAMES AND IDENTITIES OF PERSONS WHO SECURED MEXICAN TOURIST CARDS THERE ON SEPTEMBER 17 LAST, DATE SUBJECT ISSUED HIS MEXICAN TOURIST CARD. THERE IS REMOTE POSSIBILITY SOME OF THESE PERSONS MAY HAVE TRAVELED TO MEXICO WITH SUBJECT.

AMBASSADOR HERE FEELS SOVIETS MUCH TOO SOPHISTICATED TO PARTICIPATE IN DIRECTION OF ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT BY SUBJECT BUT THINKS CUBANS STUPID ENOUGH TO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SUCH DIRECTION EVEN TO EXTENT OF HIRING SUBJECT. IF THIS SHOULD BE THE CASE, IT WOULD APPEAR LIKELY THAT CONTRACT WOULD HAVE BEEN MADE WITH SUBJECT IN U.S. AND PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP TO MEXICO WAS TO SET UP GETAWAY ROUTE.

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

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☐ AIRGRAM ☒ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

PAGE FIVE FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY NO. 182 & 183
 BUREAU MAY DESIRE TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO POLLING ALL CUBAN SOURCES
 IN U.S. IN EFFORT CONFIRM OR REFUTE THIS THEORY.

DETAILED MEMO WILL BE SUBMITTED IN FIRST AVAILABLE POUCH ON
 NOVEMBER 28 NEXT. COPY OF MEXICAN TOURIST CARD ISSUED SUBJECT WILL
 BE FORWARDED AT SAME TIME FOR POSSIBLE COMPARISON OF SIGNATURE ON
 THIS CARD WITH KNOWN SIGNATURE OF SUBJECT IN ORDER TO DEFINITELY
 ESTABLISH HE WAS PERSON TO WHOM THE CARD WAS ISSUED IN HIS NAME IN
 NEW ORLEANS.

BUREAU REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY FURNISH ANY INFO DEVELOPED IN
 U.S. INVESTIGATION WHICH WOULD SERVE AS LEADS TO VERIFY SUBJECT'S
 ACTIVITIES HERE, INCLUDING ANY LONG DISTANCE CALLS MADE TO WIFE OR
 RELATIVES BY SUBJECT WHILE HERE.

CLARK D. ANDERSON

RECEIVED:

11-26-63

7:17 AM

ENT

MR. TOLSON

CC-MR. SULLIVAN

3RD CC-MR. BRENNAN

*Not desirable. Would
 send to promote rumors.
 FEE*

66

Memorandum

DATE: 11/22/63

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

DELETIONS INVOLVE SENSITIVE TECHNIQUE IN FOREIGN COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE FIELD.

See Memo of Hartman # 103
Hartman meeting N.Y. 1076
arr. Eric Galt 2.27 PM

1976

69-43-104
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 NOV 22 1969
 FBI - DALLAS
 [Signature]



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

VI-C-3(FBI)-D2

FEB 27 1976

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman
United States Senate Select Committee
on Intelligence Activities
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Church:

Transmitted herewith is a memorandum with enclosures prepared by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in response to the request of February 19, 1976, from Mr. Paul Wallach of your Committee staff seeking delivery of all Bureau materials pertaining to a "voice recording" referred to in a Report to the President from Director Hoover dated November 23, 1963.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL E. SHAHEEN, JR.
Special Counsel for Intelligence Coordination

RECEIVED FROM

FEB 27 1976

FBI



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

62-116395

February 27, 1976

U. S. SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE
TO STUDY GOVERNMENTAL
OPERATIONS WITH RESPECT
TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES (SSC)

Reference is made to the February 19, 1976, letter of the SSC containing requests for material from the FBI.

Delivered herewith is material responsive to that letter pertaining to a voice recording referred to on page five of an FBI report to the President of the United States, dated November 23, 1963, concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

As was discussed with SSC Staff Member Paul Wallach on February 24, 1976, the recording in question was never in the possession of the FBI and was not listened to by FBI Agents. One item reviewed by Mr. Wallach at FBI Headquarters on February 24, 1976, is not being forwarded with this response at the request of the originating agency. Mr. Wallach was advised on February 25, 1976, that the Legal Attache, Mexico City, is forwarding to FBI Headquarters an additional document pertinent to this inquiry. This document will be furnished to the SSC upon receipt.

In answer to personal contact and telephone requests of Mr. Wallach, the individual who prepared the previously mentioned November 23, 1963, report was Fletcher D. Thompson. The handwritten initials at the bottom of page 5 of Legal Attache, Mexico City, cablegram of November 25, 1963, are possibly those of Richard D. Cotter. Both are now retired from the FBI.

RE

FEB 27 1976

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This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. Its use is limited to official proceedings by your Committee and the content may not be disclosed to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.



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