

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

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TO :
TITLE : FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS
DATE : 04/13/56
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SUBJECTS : WILLIAM FREDERICK ONICK

VALENTINA ONICK

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SAN FRANCISCO	DATE APR 13 1956	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 3/22, 23, 28; 4/10/56
TITLE OF CASE WILLIAM FREDERICK ONICK, aka		REPORT MADE BY WAYNE K. WELCH	TYPED BY elm
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R	

5-7-96

CLASSIFIED BY **5668 SLD/HSR**
DECLASSIFY ON: **25X 1, 6**

(JFK)

SYNOPSIS:

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ONICK interviewed 3/22/56. Advised born 12/18/94, U.S.S.R. Immigrated to U.S. 1913 and naturalized 1934. Employed as carpenter; resides 26 Rocklyn Court, Corte Madera, California. Advised active in RAS, San Francisco, during World War II for purpose of aiding war effort, terminating affiliation in about 1946. Stated he had no knowledge of present RAS activity. Was in contact with members of Soviet Consulate, San Francisco, in connection with the delivery of clothing to U.S.S.R. and attended Soviet-sponsored social functions. Had no indication of espionage activity by Soviet personnel and was unable to recall ANDREI R. ORLOV. ONICK stated his son, FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK, was loyal citizen; never been member of subversive organization; and that he had no knowledge of organizational affiliations of son's wife, VALENTINA ONICK. Stated he has never been sympathetic to CP or Communist Government of Soviet Union.

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SPECIAL AGENT
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- 7 - Bureau (Registered)
(1 - FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK)
(1 - VALENTINA ONICK)
- 1 - G-2, Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco (Registered)
- 2 - Seattle (65-3458) (Registered)
(1 - DIO, 13th ND)
- 4 - San Francisco (2 - 105-3907)
(1 - 105-3945) (105-3689)

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This is an FBI investigative report and makes no recommendation for clearance or disapproval.

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REVIEWED BY FBI/AFK TASK FORCE

1/19/77

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IN FULL

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DETAILS:

WILLIAM FREDERICK ONICK, 26 Rocklyn Court, Corte Madera, California, was interviewed on March 22, 1956, by Special Agents RALPH M. LINDSEY and WAYNE K. WELCH. ONICK advised that he is presently employed as a carpenter by the Crown Development Company, Larkspur, California. He stated that he was born December 18, 1894, in the U.S.S.R. and immigrated to the United States from the U.S.S.R. in 1913. He initially resided in the Seattle, Washington, area, and was naturalized in 1934.

ONICK stated that he was never a member of the Communist Party and that neither he nor his first wife, ANISIA, had been approached to join the Communist Party. He stated that he was not acquainted with any persons whom he knew to be past or present Communist Party members. He observed that he had never been affiliated with any organization which could be construed as pro-Communist or pro-Soviet with the exception of the Russian American Society. He stated that following the death of his first wife he married MARY ONICK, nee Sokolacko, in 1952, and that she has, to his knowledge, never been affiliated with any organization of a subversive nature.

Russian American Society (RAS)

San Francisco T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, has advised that WILLIAM FREDERICK ONICK attended numerous meetings of the RAS from December 27, 1943, to March 14, 1947.

The RAS has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

ONICK stated that he initially became affiliated with the RAS shortly after the beginning of World War II, and that his action was motivated by a desire to aid the

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American-Russian war effort. He noted that his wife was active in the U.S.O. during this period. He stated that he terminated his affiliation with the RAS at the end of the war, probably in about 1946. He advised that he had no personal knowledge of any control or interference of the RAS by representatives of the Soviet Consulate, San Francisco, and that he was not aware of any payments made to the RAS by the Consulate.

ONICK observed that during most of the war years he served as a member of a four-man committee which examined RAS records approximately every two months and that nothing came to his attention indicating financial support of the RAS by the Communist Party or Communist Party support by the RAS. He noted that he served on an entertainment committee of the RAS on one occasion wherein his principal function was purchasing liquor for a reception. ONICK stated that the RAS membership at the end of World War II consisted of persons who were interested in political affairs and inasmuch as he was not concerned with political matters he did not wish to continue his association with the RAS. He stated that he has subsequently received no invitations or literature from the RAS and that he is not acquainted with present RAS members or the activity of the RAS.

Contacts with Personnel of Soviet
Consulate, San Francisco, California

ONICK related that he visited the Soviet Consulate, San Francisco, with his first wife and son shortly after the end of World War II to attend a reception or similar celebration, the specific nature of which he could not recall. He advised that this social affair was attended by the Mayor of San Francisco and numerous prominent persons and that he attended as a representative of the RAS. He recalled that he subsequently attended a party sponsored by the Consulate at the St. Francis Hotel shortly after the end of the war.

During the war, according to ONICK, he was in contact on several occasions with members of the Soviet Consulate in connection with the delivery of old clothing to the Soviet Union.

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ONICK observed that during his contact with Soviet personnel nothing had come to his attention indicating intelligence or espionage activity on the part of Soviet representatives, or others, and that no approaches had been made to him or to others, to his knowledge, of a nature which would indicate possible espionage.

Re: ANDREI ROMANOVICH ORLOV

San Francisco T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on December 3, 1945, that ANDREI ROMANOVICH ORLOV, an employee of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, San Francisco, was then informed by a Commission employee that Mr. ONICK, telephone Hemlock 4499, was waiting for ORLOV to look at the apartment. T-2 advised that the apartment was for GUDKOV (phonetic), and ORLOV agreed to contact ONICK. This source provided no additional identifiable data regarding GUDKOV or ONICK, and it is not known if the aforementioned ONICK is identical with WILLIAM FREDERICK ONICK.

It is noted that the 1945 San Francisco Street Address Telephone Directory reflects that WILLIAM ONICK then resided at 2952 Jackson Street, San Francisco, telephone Fillmore 7859.

ONICK advised that he was unable to recall a Soviet representative identifiable with ANDREI ROMANOVICH ORLOV, and he was unable to identify a photograph of ORLOV, which was exhibited to him.

Re: VERA ORLOFF

ONICK advised that his son, FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK, was married to VERA ORLOFF, daughter of JOHN and ALICE ORLOFF of San Francisco, from 1946 to 1949. ONICK stated that JOHN and ALICE ONICK were active participants in the RAS during World War II and that he recently heard from a source, whose identity he could not recall, that

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the ORLOFFs are presently active in the RAS. He stated that animosity has existed between the ONICK and ORLOFF families for several years and that he has had no contact with them since his son's divorce from VERA ORLOFF. He advised that he had no evidence of Communist Party membership on the part of the ORLOFFs, although he was aware that they had been extremely sympathetic to the Soviet Union.

T-2 has advised that ALICE and JOHN ORLOFF were known to him as members of the RAS in 1955 and that he had known VERA ORLOFF to be an RAS member in 1944.

Re: "Daily People's World"

ONICK advised that he had been approached by a person, whose identity he could not recall, prior to World War II to subscribe to the "Daily People's World," a newspaper which this person described as a "working-man's paper." ONICK stated that he had thereafter subscribed to this paper for one or two years, but that he had never been impressed with the publication. He was unable to recall the specific dates of his subscription but expressed the belief that he probably took the paper about 1939 - 1940.

San Francisco T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised in 1955 that an "M. ONICK," 2952 Jackson Street, San Francisco, was a subscriber to the "Daily People's World" in 1938, 1939, 1941, 1942, and 1943.

ONICK advised that his first wife, ANISIA was also known as MARY ONICK and that the "Daily People's World" subscription might have been in her name.

Re: VALENTINA ONICK

San Francisco T-4, a confidential source abroad, advised in July, 1955, that VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI, born

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February 12, 1923, in Poland, had been employed as a Private Secretary by SERGEI GRIGORIEVICH LUKIANOV in the office of the Commercial Counsellor, Vancouver, B.C., from May, 1946, to February, 1947.

T-4 advised that VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI advised upon interview on March 31, 1950, that she had formerly been a member of the Board of Directors of the National Council for Canadian-Soviet Friendship Society in January, 1945. She stated that in 1950 she was a member of the Federation of Russian-Canadians. This source advised that the aforementioned society and federation were Communist-controlled organizations.

ONICK advised that he initially met VALENTINA in April, 1955, in Seattle at the time of her marriage to his son. He observed that he visited in Seattle on that occasion and that his son and daughter-in-law visited him in Corte Madera in the fall of 1955. He related that he recently received a letter from his son, who is employed by the American Red Cross in Seattle, wherein his son advised that although he had a deep desire to effect a transfer to Alaska, he had been unable to receive the necessary security clearance from appropriate authorities. His son advised he was unable to understand the denial of his clearance and ONICK inferred that his son was unable to obtain clearance from the United States Navy for the transfer to Alaska. ONICK stated that his son had never been affiliated with the Communist Party or any subversive organization and that he was an entirely loyal citizen. He advised that his son had always associated with persons of satisfactory character, that his son had no bad habits, an excellent military record, and that he was at a loss to understand the Navy's refusal to grant his son a clearance.

ONICK stated that he was not really well acquainted with his son's wife, VALENTINA, but that he knew nothing of a derogatory nature concerning her. He stated that he had no knowledge of any past or present organizational

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affiliations on the part of VALENTINA ONICK. He recalled that VALENTINA had worked for the American Can Company in Vancouver, Canada, for about ten years prior to her marriage to his son but that he had no knowledge of any other employment on her part. He stated that he had never heard of SERGEI LUKIANOV.

ONICK observed that during his visit to Seattle and Vancouver, Canada, at the time of his son's marriage, VALENTINA was residing with her elderly parents. He observed that VALENTINA had two brothers, whose names he did not know, who also resided in the Seattle - Vancouver area. He recalled that the marriage of his son was held in a hall in Vancouver, Canada, and that he had been told by a person, whose identity he could not recall, that the hall was owned by the "Russian Colony" but that the person supplying him with this information did not identify the individuals or organizations who actually owned the hall.

ONICK advised that he had no indication of Communist or Soviet sympathies by VALENTINA ONICK or her relatives and that he personally believed that VALENTINA was a plain, unsophisticated girl who was not interested in political matters.

Re: VICTOR ARNAUTOFF

T-1 advised on April 4, 1955, that VICTOR ARNAUTOFF was President of the RAS, San Francisco, and had held that position since the inception of the RAS in about 1941.

T-1 stated on May 4, 1955, that ARNAUTOFF had been a member of "The Eleven" Branch of the Communist Party from 1950 to 1955. ONICK stated that he initially met VICTOR ARNAUTOFF during the early part of World War II while ARNAUTOFF was President of the RAS. He advised that his association with ARNAUTOFF was limited to contact with ARNAUTOFF at RAS functions and that he was not

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socially acquainted with ARNAUTOFF. He stated that he did not know if ARNAUTOFF was a member of the Communist Party and that he could provide no information concerning ARNAUTOFF's present activity inasmuch as he had not been in contact with him since about 1946 - 1947.

ONICK stated that he is not now and has never been sympathetic to the Communist Party or the Communist Government of the Soviet Union and that as a loyal citizen he wished to cooperate with the FBI at any time in any possible manner.

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