

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : INSCOM/CSF
RECORD NUMBER : 194-10002-10145
RECORDS SERIES : DOD-AFFILIATED PERSONNEL AND INCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : C6013559P - PAGES 492-499

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : USAF
FROM : WELCH, F. L.
TO :
TITLE : SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION
DATE : 11/21/57
PAGES : 8
SUBJECTS : ONICK, FRED W.

AMERICAN RED CROSS
ONICK, WILLIAM FREDERICK
ONICK, VERA ORLOFF
BELOGRODSKI, VALENTINA
RUSSIAN-AMERICAN SOCIETY
BELOGRODSKI, WALTER

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT *L*
CLASSIFICATION : ~~SECRET~~ * *
RESTRICTIONS : ~~REFERRED~~ *C*
CURRENT STATUS : ~~POSTPONED IN FULL~~ *A*
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 03/07/95 *R*
OPENING CRITERIA : UPON COMPLETION OF REVIEW BY AFOSI FOR RELEASABILITY *D*
COMMENTS : DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REFERRED TO THE AIR FORCE OFFICE OF *
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS FOR RELEASABILITY ***
DETERMINATION. ***

~~SECRET~~

21 November 1957

SUBJECT: FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK - American Red Cross Representative

1. PERSONAL HISTORY - SUBJECT was born 4 July 1921 at San Francisco, California. His parents were both born in Russia; his mother is deceased and his father, was born 18 December 1894, immigrated to the United States in 1913, was naturalized in 1934 and presently resides at 26 Rocklyn Court, Corte Madera, California. SUBJECT attended San Francisco Junior College and Golden State College, both at San Francisco, California. He served in the U. S. Army from 20 May 1942 to 21 April 1946 and from 11 October 1951 to 31 October 1954 at which time he was released from active duty; he maintains a commission in the Army Reserve. SUBJECT was employed in private industry from 1946 to 1951. He was employed by the American Red Cross, 17 November 1954, serving at Pier 91, 13th Naval District, Seattle, Washington, prior to his assignment at Ladd Air Force Base, Alaska. SUBJECT resided at 2952 Jackson Street, San Francisco from 1937 to 1942; at 26 Rocklyn Court, Corte Madera, California from 1946 to 1951 and at 3717 26th Place West, Seattle, Washington from 1954 to 1956. SUBJECT married VERA ORLOFF on 7 October 1946; this marriage was dissolved by divorce in April 1949. SUBJECT married VALENTENA BELOBRODSKI on 28 April 1955.

2. SUMMARY -

a. Investigation did not disclose any membership by SUBJECT in any designated or cited organization. The investigation revealed considerable information concerning SUBJECT's parents, his former wife and his present wife. This information, which was developed by CIC, Army, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Civil Service Commission and a source in Canada is set out below.

b. WILLIAM FREDERICK ONICK is SUBJECT's father. Investigation concerning this individual is as follows:

- (1) It was reported that he subscribed to the Daily People's World (DPW), the West Coast Communist paper in 1938, 1939, 1941, 1942 and 1943.

He was affiliated with the Russian American Society (RAS) from 1943 to 1947. He was elected to offices in the RAS and in connection with his affiliation of the RAS, attended functions at the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco, California.

He promoted the collection of funds for the Soviet Children's Hospital in Moscow, Russia.

In 1944, he attended a meeting at San Francisco, California, where the main speaker was ROBERT MINOR, a national functionary of the Communist Party. (See pages 92-93; 179-182)

492

~~SECRET~~

Incl 1 De 57-6319-J

~~SECRET~~

- (2) One W. ONICK, not otherwise identified was reported on 20 January 1939 as a contributor of \$10.00 to a sustaining fund of the Daily People's World. (See page 183)
- (3) One M. ONICK, 2952 Jackson Street, San Francisco, California, was reported as a subscriber to the Daily People's World in 1938, 1940, 1941, 1942 and 1943. SUBJECT resided at this address; his stepmother's name is MARY ONICK. (See page 16; 95)
- (4) WILLIAM ONICK was interviewed by the FBI, 22 March 1956 and advised that he had been a member of the RAS from 1943 to 1947 and active in that organization. He stated that his motivation for joining was a desire to aid the Russian-American War effort. He stated that he visited with and was in contact with officials of the Russian Consulate in San Francisco on numerous occasions. He denied knowledge of any intelligence or espionage activities on the part of the Russians. (See page 198-200)
- (5) WILLIAM ONICK advised he had recently (1955) received a letter from his son, who stated he had a deep desire to effect a transfer with the Red Cross to Alaska, but had been unable to receive the necessary clearance. His son indicated an inability to understand the denial of clearance. His father understood the clearance to be in connection with his Red Cross assignment with the Navy Department. (See page 202)

c. VERA ORLOFF ONICK was SUBJECT's first wife. Investigation concerning this individual revealed the following information:

- (1) She was born 24 March 1923 at San Francisco, California. Prior to her employment with the Department of the Army, she worked for the U. S. Food and Drug Administration.

In the 1940s she was a member of and active in the RAS. She and her family were acquainted with representatives of the Russian Consulate prior to 1948. In 1945, her picture appeared in a San Francisco daily paper along with the wife of the Russian Consul General at San Francisco in connection with a function sponsored by the All-Slavic Council of Northern California. As of 1948, the officers of this organization were reported as pro-Communist or Communist Party members, however, in former years the organization was believed not to be under Communist influence.

493

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Her father, JOHN ORLOFF, was reported as an active member of the RAS from the early 1940s until 1955. He was reported to have been invited to join the Communist Party but declined, stating that he was already performing the work but did not have time for meetings or direct party activities. He was a National delegate to the Fourth All Slav Congress in 1948; this organization was reported as an affiliate of the American Slav Congress, a designated organization. (See page 104-105; 164-169; 187-190)

- (2) In connection with her employment with the Department of the Army, VERA ONICK was furnished and answered a Civil Service Interrogatory. In her answer, denied membership in the Communist Party; furnished information as to her father's activities, but denied any membership or sympathy for the Communist Party or involvement in subversive activities. There was attached to her answers a deposition by VERA ORLOFF, executed by the law firm of Gladstein, Anderson, Resner and Sawyer, in which she stated that Executive Order 9835 and the loyalty program violated her constitutional rights under the First, Fifth and Tenth Amendments of the Constitution. Other protestations of the matter were also set out. (See page 232-239)
- (3) The law firm referred to above has been reliably reported to be composed of Communists or Communist sympathizers and to have represented Communist Party officials for years. (See page 225)
- (4) VERA ORLOFF ONICK was listed on a roster of terminated civilian employees of the Army by reason of loyalty. This information was furnished 12 October 1950 by the Intelligence Field Office, Fort MacArthur, California. (See page 106)
- (5) In contrast to the above, files of G-2 Army, Washington, D. C., reflect that the Civil Service Commission rated VERA ONICK on 25 August 1949 as "eligible" for continued employment. The Army thereafter recommended that the case be closed. These records also reflected that she resigned her position 2 December 1949 to get married. (See page 242)

d. VALENTINA BELOGRODSKI is SUBJECT's present wife. She was born in Poland 12 February 1923, emigrated to Canada at an early age and permanently entered the United States 21 August 1955. In essence, the investigation revealed the following concerning VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI:

494

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

- (1) She was employed by the Soviet Purchasing Commission in Vancouver, Canada, from May 1946 to February 1947. She performed duties for S. G. LUKIANOV, who has been positively identified as a Soviet Intelligence Agent.

Her family was reported as having been long interested in the Russian Workers and Farmers Club and its successor, the Federation of Russian Canadians, described as a Communist-controlled organization.

In 1950, she admitted former membership in the National Council for Canadian Soviet Friendship Society. She was listed on the Board of Directors in January 1945. This organization has been described as the forerunner of the present Canadian Soviet Friendship Society (Communist Front) and was not considered as being under open Communist control until 1947.

Her brother, WALTER HELOBRODSKI, was reported in 1955 as a member of the Labor-Progressive Party (Communist), and as of 1950, he was secretary of the Polish Democratic Association, described as a Communist Front. (See page 99; 202; 209; 211; 212; 215-216)

- (2) VALENTINA ONICK was interviewed by a Government agency on 30 April 1956. She advised, in essence, as follows: She was employed by the Soviet Purchasing Commission in Canada from May 1946 to January or February 1947, working under SERGEI LUKIANOV. She stated that she was not trusted with any highly classified information.

She admitted having been affiliated with the National Council for Canadian Soviet Friendship Society (NCCSFS), also known as the Canadian-Soviet Friendship Society (CSFS), the Canadian-Soviet Friendship League (CSFL) and indicated having been on the Board of Directors of that organization during 1943 or 1944.

She believed her brother WALTER to be a member of the Polish Democratic Association (PDA).

It should be noted that the NCCSFS, CSFL and PDA are described as being Communist-controlled. The NCCSFS first became openly Communist dominated in 1947. (See page 100-101; 178-179; 194; 207-213)

495

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

(3) VALENTINA HELGERSKI was interviewed by a source abroad 31 March 1950. This source stated that she proved quite cooperative, but she was unwilling or unable to provide any information of value concerning Soviet personnel in Canada. She furnished information as to her employment at the Soviet Purchasing Commission in Vancouver; her association with the Canadian Soviet Friendship League, also known as the Canadian Soviet Friendship Society and with the Federation of Russian Canadians. (See page 216-218)

e. SUBJECT was reported as an associate of CHARLES B. GIBCO, not otherwise identified. This source, of unstated reliability, referred to SUBJECT as being affiliated with the CP. He was also reported as an associate of H. LUCCA of Summit Drive, Corte Madera, California. FBI reports state that HUMBERT LUCCA, Summit Drive, Madera, was a CP member in 1943 and subscribed to the DFW in 1953. (See page 184-185)

f. Concerning SUBJECT's marriage to VERA ORLOFF, a source stated that animosity has existed between the ONICK and ORLOFF families for several years. (See page 201)

g. It is noted that SUBJECT received correspondence from one T. HELGERSKI, 3919 Alice Street, Vancouver, B. C., Canada, on 13 April 1956. (See page 156) He received correspondence from one J. HELGERSKI, 3919 Alice Street, Vancouver, B. C., on 15 May 1956. (See page 158)

h. Numerous references, associates and neighbors of SUBJECT were interviewed and commented favorably, concerning SUBJECT's character, reputation and loyalty. Comments of others interviewed concerning SUBJECT, which are worthy of note, are set out below:

- (1) PETER CANELLI, fellow employee of SUBJECT at Walter H. Moore Dry Goods Company, San Francisco, California, declined to recommend SUBJECT for a position of trust because of drinking habits and talking a lot while under the influence of alcohol. (See page 36)
- (2) CARL Q. RIZNICK, former employer of SUBJECT, recommended SUBJECT and commented that SUBJECT's first marriage was solely to please the fathers of SUBJECT and his first wife. (See page 38)
- (3) LEIZER RIZNICK, former employer of SUBJECT, recommended SUBJECT and commented that SUBJECT and his father have a close relationship and that SUBJECT's father would do almost anything to please his son. (See page 39)

496

~~SECRET~~

5

BEST IMAGE AVAILABLE

