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WHAT INFORMATION ABOUT LEE HARVEY OSWALD'S STAY IN MEXICO WAS KNOWN BY THE CIA MEXICO CITY STATION PRIOR TO THE ASSASSINATION AND WHAT WAS THE SOURCE OF THAT INFORMATION?

In 1963 the Central Intelligence Agency's Mexico City Headquarters surveilled both the Cuban and Soviet Embassies electronically and photographically. (See preceding sections entitled Soviet Embassy photographic coverage, p. ; Soviet Embassy electronic coverage, p. ; Cuban Embassy electronic coverage, p. ; Cuban Embassy photographic coverage, p.)

The Mexico City Headquarters made daily transcripts of the electronic coverage in the Soviet Embassy. (See preceding section

)

From the Transcripts the Mexico City Station learned the following:

September 27, 1963. Friday.

At \approx 10:30 a.m. a man called the Soviet Military Attache looking for a visa to Odessa. He was referred to the Consulate. The man then asked for and was given directions to the Consulate's office. The conversation that transpired was in Spanish, meaning that Oswald could speak Spanish. (HSCA staff summary of Pre-Assassination Mexico, 3/9/78, p. 5, CIA no. 319; see also, Cable from Mexico City Headquarters to the Director, 11-23-63, Mexi 7025, CIA no. 218.)

At 10:37 a man called the Soviet Consulate and asked for the Consul.

He was told that the Consul was not in.

The man outside ~~stated~~^{stressed} that it was necessary for him to get a visa to Odessa.

He ~~the~~ was told to call back at 11:30. This conversation was also in Spanish. (HSCA

staff summary of Pre-Assassination Mexico,

3/9/78, p. 6, CIA no. 320; see also, Cable from

Mexico City Headquarters to the Director, 11/23/63,

Mexi 7025 CIA no. 218) CIA TRANSCRIPT FROM RUSSIAN EMBASSY/
Sept 23, 1963, CIA no. 320.

At 1:25 p.m. a man called the Consulate and asked for the Consul. The man was told that the Consul was not

in. The man outside asked, "when tomorrow?" The official told him that on Mondays and Fridays the Consul was in between four and five. This conversation was also in Spanish. (HSCA staff summary of Pre-Assassination Mexico, 3/9/78, p. 6, CIA no. 319.)

At approximately 4:05 p.m. Sylvia Duman called the Soviet Embassy. She ~~told~~^{tel} the person at the Embassy that an American citizen seeking a visa ~~is~~^{was} at the Cuban Consulate. Sylvia explained that the American citizen wanted to know the name of the official he had dealt with at the

Soviet Embassy. Sylvia had sent the American to the Soviet Embassy stating that his acquiring a Cuban visa was contingent on his previously acquiring a Soviet visa. Sylvia explained to the ~~official~~ Soviet official that the American had stated that he was assured that there would be no problem. At that point, the Soviet official got another official on the phone causing Sylvia to repeat the story. The official then asked Sylvia to leave her name and number ~~that he~~ ^{to} might call her later. This conversation was also in Spanish. (HSCA staff summary of Pre-Assassination Mexico,

3/9/78, pp. 6-7, CIA no's 320-321; Cable from
Mexico City to Headquarters to the Director,

11/23/63, Mexi 7025, CIA no's 218-219.8
Russian Embassy, Sept 27, 1963, CIA no. 277. ^{CIA TRANSCRIPT from}

At 4:26 p.m. an unidentified Soviet
Consulate official called Sylvia Duran inquiring
whether the American citizen had been to
the Cuban consulate's office. Sylvia responded
affirmatively stating that the American was
at the office then. The Soviet official told
Sylvia that when the American visited the
Soviet consulate's office he had displayed
papers from the Soviet Consulate in Washington.
The American wanted to go to the USSR
with his Russian wife and remain there

Insert 6-A

Insert 6-A

He also had a letter stating that
he was a member of an organization
that favored Cuba

(7)

a long time. The Soviet official had not received an answer from Washington to the American's problem, and was aware that the problem traditionally took four to five months to resolve because Washington had to secure authorization from the U.S.S.R. The Soviet official added that the American's wife could get a visa in Washington very quickly and she could have it sent anywhere but that he felt that the American would not get a visa soon. Sylvia said that the Cuban government could not give the American a visa because he had neither friends in Cuba ~~without U.S.S.R. approval or~~

now authorization for a visa from the USSR.

The Soviet official added - that the Soviets could not give the American a letter of recommendation because they did not know him. This conversation was in Spanish.

(HSCA staff summary of Pre-Assassination Mexico, 3/9/78, ps. 7-10, CIA nos. 321-324; see also Cable from Mexico City Headquarters to the Director, 11/23/63, Mepi 7025, CIA nos. 219-221, CIA no. 30) } CIA Transcript from Russian Embassy, 9-27-63,

On Saturday September 28, 1963, Sylvia Duran called the Soviet consulate at 11:51 a.m. stating that there ~~was~~ ^{was} an American citizen at the ^{Cuban} Soviet Consulate who had previously visited

the Soviet consulate. ^{The Soviet} ~~Sylvia~~ asked Sylvia to wait a minute. Upon his return to the phone, Sylvia put the American on the line. At first the American spoke Russian and the Soviet spoke English. The conversation then proceeded in English until, ^{the Russian} discontinued it and put another Soviet on the line. The Soviet ^{spoke} ~~speaks~~ in English but the American, ^{hardly} ^{or broken} ^{recognizable} Russian, asked him to speak Russian. The conversation resumed ^{at} ~~was~~ that point. It also became incoherent and is thus quoted in its entirety.

Russian: What else do you want?

American: I was just now at your Embassy and they took my address.

Russian: I know that.

American: / speaks terrible, hardly recognizable Russian / I did not know it then. I went to the Cuban Embassy to

ask them for my address, because they have it.

Russian: Why don't you come again and leave your address with us; it not far from the Cuban Embassy.

American: Well, I'll be there right away.

(HSCA staff summary of Pre-Assassination Mexico,

3/9/78, pp. 10-12, CIA nos. 324-326; See also

CIA Transcript from Russian Embassy, 9/28/63. CIA no. 25)
~~Call from Mexico City Headquarters to the~~

~~Director, 11/25/63, Mex 7025~~

On Monday, October 1, 1963 at 10:31 a. m.,

a man called the Soviet Military Attache

and in broken Russian said that he

had visited the consulate the previous

Saturday and spoken to the consul. The

man wanted to know if the ^{Soviets} Russians

had received an answer from Washington.

At that point the Soviet official gave

the man ~~another~~ ^{the consulate} and asked him
number & for cable.

to call there. (HSCA staff summary of

Pre-Assassination Mexico, 3/9/78, pg. 12, CIA no. 326;

See also, Cable from Mexico City Headquarters

to the Director, 11/23/63, Mexi 7025, CIA no. 221;

See also, CIA Transcript from Russian Embassy, ^{10/1/63.} 9/27/63,

CIA no. 33.)

at 10:47 a man, ^{who showed a day or so ago} ~~later~~ ~~during the day~~ a man called
and spoke in broken Russian called the consul.

~~the consul.~~

and spoke to OBYEDKOV. (CIA Mexico City

Investigation chronology, WX-7241, Vol. I) places

the call at 10:47 although there is no

time on the transcript.) The man introduces

himself as Lee Oswald and states that

he visited the Soviet consulate the previous

Saturday and spoke to the consul. Oswald added that the consul had stated that they would send a telegram to Washington and he wanted to know if they had ^{received} an answer. ~~She~~ ^{Obyedkov} asked Oswald to hold on a minute while he inquired. When he resumed the conversation he stated that the Soviet consul ^{had sent out the request but} had not received an answer yet. ~~Oswald then~~ ^{Obyedkov then hung up the} phone as Oswald began another sentence with the words, "and what." (HSCA staff summary of Pre-Assassination Mexico, 3/9/78, ps. 12-14, CIA nos. 326-328; ~~See also, Cable from Mexico City Headquarters to the Director, 11/23/63, Mexico~~)

~~7623~~ See also, CIA transcript
from Russian Embassy, 10/1/63, CIA no. 24.)

On October 3 a man called the
Soviet Military Attache and spoke in
broken Spanish and then English. When
he inquired about a visa to Russia
he was given the consulate phone number.
The man then inquired if they
~~after being given the number~~ issued visas

at the consulate. ~~The Russian stated that the~~
~~man was not certain but that he (the man) should call the~~
~~consul nonetheless.~~
~~to call the~~ ~~but that the consul would~~

CHSCA staff ~~the~~ summary of Pre-Assassination

Mexico, 3/9/78, p. 14, CIA no. 328; See also,

Cable from Mexico City Headquarters to the

Director, 11/23/63, Mexi 7025, CIA no. 222; See also, CIA

Transcript from Russian Embassy, 10/3/63, CIA no. 34)

There are three new areas in the liaison wire-tapping operation ^{where} that Anne Goodpasture must be questioned extensively: a) the role of the case officers Shaw, Phillips and Wainell; b) the difference between resumens and transcripts; and c) the delivery procedure of "~~urgent~~" tapes particularly those marked "Urgent".

Anne Goodpasture's testimony about ^{her role} the role of the case officers in the liaison wire-tapping operation was not clear in her executive session testimony. Exactly what ^{were} ~~was~~ ^{the} Anne's responsibilities of each official must be determined.

When staff personnel interviewed Arnold Archart in Mexico City, he explained that when the Mexicans monitored the conversations they would write resumens of the important conversations. In addition to the resumens, Mr. Archart stated that the tapes from the Cuban taps and the Spanish language portions of the tapes from the Soviet taps were transcribed in the base. (See Archart interview) ~~Only~~ The Committee was unaware of the existence of resumens when Ms. Goodpasture testified in Executive Session. Thus Ms. Goodpasture must be questioned about their existence and where they can be located.