

Date: 03/03/05

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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RECORD SERIES : JFK
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : RUSS HOLMES WORK FILE

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TO : CIA SECURITY OFFICER, HSCA
TITLE : VOLUME III/SUPPORT DOCUMENTS FOR THE HELMS HEARING AT
HSCA
DATE : 08/09/1978
PAGES : 232

SUBJECTS : HELMS RICHARD
JFK ASSASSINATION

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10406-10114

Volume III

Pages 0002108 - 0003369

Annex - 52 pages 0003520 -
0003571

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CONTENTS OF VOLUME V

- ~~1. Memorandum for Chief, CI/R&A, dated 17 March 1964; subject: Article Alleging OSWALD Was Interviewed by CIA Employees. [XAAZ-17364 - FOIA No. 609-786]~~
- ~~2. Memorandum for J. Lee RANKIN, dated 18 March 1964; subject: Article Alleging that OSWALD Was Interviewed by CIA in Moscow. [XAAZ-17355 - FOIA No. 610-263]~~
3. Memorandum for Chief, Ci Staff, dated 18 September 1975; subject: Allegations of Lee Harvey OSWALD's Connection with the Agency. [EX-10932 - FOIA No. 1188-1000]

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EX-10932

18 SEP
1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CI Staff

SUBJECT: Allegations of Lee Harvey OSWALD's
Connection with the Agency

REFERENCE: Memorandum of Conversation, Dan
Rather/Les Midgley and the DCI,
Dated 6 September 1975

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 19 1975	
FBI - MEMPHIS	

1. The referent memorandum contains two points which require comments. The first point concerns allegations that were made shortly after the assassination of President Kennedy and that have crept up every so often since then. In one form or another, the allegations are that Lee Harvey OSWALD had been connected with the Agency. The allegations are totally unfounded.

2. The facts regarding this matter are as follows:

a. On 27 November 1963 I was instructed by Mr. R.G. Rocca, my immediate superior at that time, to make a thorough check within the Agency at Headquarters to determine whether Lee Harvey OSWALD had ever been used by the Agency or been connected with it in any conceivable way. He ordered me to make the checks directly and personally to the degree possible and not to accept statements of intermediaries. He also explained that he was following instructions from Mr. R. Helms, who was then the DDP and served as one of the Agency's key contact officials with the Warren Commission.

b. Although I had already checked the Main Index of IP (then RID) on the night of the assassination, I rechecked the Main Index and found no record beyond that which I had already obtained before (plus those items which had been integrated into the records system since the assassination). There was nothing in the DDO records which indicated any Agency connection with OSWALD.

Document Number 1188-1000
For FOIA Review on NOV 1976

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18 Sep 75
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c. The next component I checked was DCD. There was no record in their Headquarters files. Arrangements were then made for me to check telephonically with each DCD base in the US. The chiefs of the bases then searched their records and spoke with their officers. I was then advised by each of the chiefs or their designees individually that there had been no contact with OSWALD.

d. I then checked with Division D, SE Division, and LA Division's Cuban Operations Group (COG) for any informal desk records. The results were likewise negative.

e. Through the Security Research Section (GRS) of the Office of Security I had the security files checked. There was no record of OSWALD.

f. Although GRS keeps no records on Americans, I checked their Soviet, Mexican, and Cuban holdings on the remote chance that they may have recorded something on OSWALD. There was no record in those files.

g. In my presence the chief of the CI Staff's Administrative Office called the Office of Personnel and received the word that there was no record on an employee or an applicant for employment named Lee Harvey OSWALD.

h. I also checked the Office of Medical Services and found no record on OSWALD.

i. The Covert Action Staff also found no record on him.

j. Finally, I also checked the records of the CI Staff's Operational Approval Group (CI/OA) with negative results.

k. My checks were completed on 4 December 1963 and I then sent a brief informal note to Mr. Rocca

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specifying all the checks I had made and stating that the results showed that Lee Harvey OSWALD had never had any connection whatsoever with the Agency. Eventually a statement to this effect was communicated to the Warren Commission.

3. Similar checks regarding use or employment of OSWALD had been requested by the foreign divisions of their appropriate stations, I was told, and the results were negative.

4. I recall very clearly that we were extremely concerned at the time that OSWALD, as an American returning from the USSR, might have been routinely debriefed by DCD, thus having established contact with the Agency. The same point has now, quite understandably, been made by the two CBS newsmen. Having some knowledge of this subject I have personally concluded that there is valid reason for DCD's lack of interest in OSWALD at that time. He would surely have been contacted and debriefed by DCD had he been to the USSR and returned to the US before 1957/1958. Travel to the Soviet Union by Westerners, particularly by Americans, before that time was quite uncommon and we were hungry for eyewitness information in those days. The thaw began in about 1956 and by the end of that decade there were so many persons travelling to and from the Soviet Union that DCD was incapable of talking to all of them. Therefore, a program of selectivity and specific target applicability was instituted. In light of the above, it seems to me that OSWALD-- if he came to DCD's attention at all--would have easily been by-passed, because he simply did not possess the type of information that DCD was seeking at that time. DCD would surely have used its limited manpower on travellers who had had much greater access in the USSR.

5. It should be added that my above-described search in the Agency file holding produced no record or indication that any other US Government agency had used him as a source or had considered him for recruitment.

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6. The second point in the referent memorandum concerns the papers that were available at Headquarters on Oswald before the day of the assassination. Specifically, there were five documents which had been sent to the Agency before the assassination. Two of the documents had been sent to us by the FBI, two by the Department of State, and one by the US Navy. A 201 file (201-289248) had been opened on 9 December 1960 on the basis of the receipt of the first of these five documents. The 201 file contained no records that had been originated by any Agency component. The Mexico City station's reporting of the monitoring of Oswald's activities in Mexico had not as yet been included in the 201 file. The pertinent cables from Mexico City were held at the Mexico branch at Headquarters, while the data contained in them had been disseminated to the FBI upon receipt. The cables were incorporated into the file following the assassination - and were, of course, made available to all concerned, including the Warren Commission.

7. It should be noted that no particularly great urgency was attached to the handling of the records regarding Oswald before the assassination because Oswald's name had no particular meaning before that fateful event.

8. The facts regarding the records we possessed before the assassination as well as the make up of our computerized records system were explained to Chief Justice Warren, members of his Commission, and a group of the Commission's staff members when they visited Headquarters in about March 1964 for the express purpose of viewing the methods and controls we employed in our records keeping activities. Our 201 file on Oswald was also shown to them at the time. From all I have heard regarding this visit, the visitors were satisfied with our records system and the manner in which we kept our records.

Paul Hartman

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Telephone Conversation between DCI and J. Edgar HOOVER
26 November 1963 - 11:20 a.m.

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TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN DCI AND J. EDGAR HOOVER
26 November 1963 - 11:20 a. m.

DCI: I just want to be sure that you are satisfied that this Agency is giving you all the help that we possibly can in connection with your investigation of the situation in Dallas. I know the importance the President places on this investigation you are making. He asked me personally whether CIA was giving you full support. I said that they were, but I just wanted to be sure from you that you felt so.

H: We have had the very best support that we could possibly expect from you.

DCI: Good. Well you can call on us for anything we have.

H: We will feel free to do that

DCI: I think it is an exceedingly important investigation and report and I am delighted that the President has called on you to make it.

H: We are trying to do it as fast as we can so we can dispel various wild rumors that have been circulating as to whether this man was the right man etc. that fired the gun. But there is no question that he is the right man. There are a lot of aspects that we have dug up, for instance, with regards to the matter in Mexico City. We have now found that the photograph that was taken was not that of Oswald. We do find from our informant down there that Oswald did call at the Embassy that day and the informant has given us the conversation that he had. He wanted to get a permit to go back to Russia and the Cuban Embassy couldn't give him the permit. The Soviet Embassy stated that it would take three weeks. He had, I think, a visitor's permit for about a week or ten days so that is why he came back to the United States.

DCI: Well, all of that ties in importantly into the story and we have those operational sources down there. We want to handle them very carefully. It involves some very high level people down there. Sam Papich and I have talked about that a couple of times.

H: ^{Katzenbach} Mr. Katzenbach who is handling it for the Department - it is our intention when the Bureau finishes the report, he will of course go over it very carefully because it will be a report that will be released to the public, probably through the White

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House, but it is the intention after it is in final form to be checked with each of the Government agencies that are mentioned in it. State Department is involved in regard to the issuing of the passport to the man to come back to this country and that has got to be explained why it was done, the law requires it, etc. all of which of course we are gathering. The aspects of the Mexico City thing. It will have to be mentioned. It is his intention to check with the agencies, Secret Service, etc. to be sure that whatever is said in the report is conferred in and it is agreed to by the various agencies mentioned. So you will have that opportunity to go over it and see exactly what is said and I know he will welcome any suggestion that you care to make.

DCI: Well that will be fine. Thank you

H: Good bye.

(tape) mcm

cc: DDCI
DD/P

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CONTENTS OF VOLUME VIII

1. DIR 74673, 10 October 1963 - dissemination to Department of State, Department of the Navy, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. [FOIA No. 6-3]
2. Internal Note from ROCCA to HELMS, dated 5 March 1964. [XAAZ-22803 - FOIA No. 579-250]
3. Internal Note from ANGLETON to ROCCA, dated 12 May 1964. [XAAZ-22809 - FOIA No. 689-298]
4. Memorandum for RANKIN, dated 1 July 1964; subject: Lee Harvey OSWALD's Arrival Time in Helsinki on 10 October 1959. [Duplicate of FOIA No. 758-325]

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DDP 4-3389
Commission file

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1 July 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel
President's Commission on the Assassination
of President Kennedy

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey Oswald's Arrival Time in
Helsinki on 10 October 1959

1. In response to your memorandum of 25 May 1964, we have established that the only direct flight from London to Helsinki on 10 October 1959 was Finn Air flight 352 which arrived in Helsinki at 2333 (11:33 P.M.). If Oswald had taken this flight, he could not normally have cleared customs and landing formalities and reached the Torni Hotel downtown by 2400 (midnight) on the same day. This is based on the judgment of officers in this Agency familiar with the Helsinki airport.

2. We are presently attempting to determine if Oswald could have taken a more circuitous flight from London, with a stop at Stockholm, Copenhagen, or some other city. Any additional information received will be forwarded to you promptly.

SAME AS
758-325

(Signed) Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

SR/CI/Research: S.Duncan:cl
Rewritten: RHelms/ecd - 1 July 64
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XAAZ-22809
12 May 1964 1745

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Rocca

Internal Memo Regarding Agency's Position in Dealing
with Warren Commission

1. The DDP called me this afternoon, 12 May, to state that the Director has received a telephone call from RANKIN regarding the Commission's desire to interview him at 1030 AM, Thursday. Mr. HOOVER is scheduled to appear at 9:00 on that morning.

2. The DDP wishes to have from you a short but comprehensive memorandum which highlights the basic issues or positions entered into by the Agency in its dealings with the Commission. For example, RANKIN indicated that the Commission would wish to hear the Director's views as to how improvements might be made in protecting the President's life. Further, they will probably ask questions regarding the possibilities that a conspiracy existed. Such general questioning certainly necessitates that the DCI be made aware of the positions taken during previous interviews. I raised with Mr. HELMS the nature of the recent information which you are processing which originated with the sensitive WH source. I informed him that in your view this would raise a number of new factors with the Commission, that it should not go to the Commission prior to the Director's appearance unless we have first had some preliminary reaction or made sure that the Director is fully aware of its implications since it could well serve as the basis for detailed questioning. The DDP stated that he would review this carefully and made a decision as to the question of timing.

3. Given the schedule, you will appreciate that the DDP will need a paper covering the above points as soon as possible.

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W/EST	X	SPACE PROGRAM
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W/72		...
...		...
...		...
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J.A.

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for FOIA Review on JUN 1976

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XAAZ-22803

5 March 1964

(008) Internal Memo in re passage to
Dick: Warren Commission of Agency material
previously given to Secret Service
We have a problem here for your determination.

This is responsive to paragraph 3 of Rankin's letter (see reference tab). JA does not desire to respond directly to paragraph 2 of that letter which made a levy for our material which had gotten into the hands of the Secret Service since 23 November. We found that, except for three telegrams, all that the Secret Service had was material we had sent to McGeorge Bundy at the White House. Apparently, he had simply passed it to the Secret Service as a matter of internal information.

Unless you feel otherwise, Jim would prefer to wait out the Commission on the matter covered by paragraph 2. If they come back on the point he feels that you, or someone from here, should be prepared to go over to show the Commission the materials rather than pass them to them in copy. Incidentally, none of these items are of new substantive interest. We have either passed the material in substance to the Commission in response to earlier levies, or the items refer to aborted leads, for example, the famous six photographs which were not of Oswald, and the passenger manifest on an airline which also did not pertain to Oswald.

If you desire to take note of the levy in paragraph 2, we would recommend that you indicate in the attached proposed memorandum solely that we will take care of it separately.

Document Number 579-250

for FOIA Review of JUN 1976

Rock

70F 2 11 33 AM '64 Raymond G. Rocca

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TO : SEE BELOW
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10 Oct 63 20 12z

CONF: WH 8

INFO: CI, CI/OPS, CI/SI, FI, SR 7, RF, VR

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SIG GEN
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TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INFO: FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

CITE DIR 74673

SUBJECT: LEE HENRY OSWALD

1. ON 1 OCTOBER 1963 A RELIABLE AND SENSITIVE SOURCE IN MEXICO REPORTED THAT AN AMERICAN MALE, WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS LEE OSWALD, CONTACTED THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY INQUIRING WHETHER THE EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED ANY NEWS CONCERNING A TELEGRAM WHICH HAD BEEN SENT TO WASHINGTON. THE AMERICAN WAS DESCRIBED AS APPROXIMATELY 35 YEARS OLD, WITH AN ATHLETIC BUILD, ABOUT SIX FEET TALL, WITH A RECEDING HAIRLINE.

CLASSIFICATION REVIEW
CONDUCTED ON 18 APR 1976
E/2 IMPDET CL BY 012209

2. IT IS BELIEVED THAT OSWALD MAY BE IDENTICAL TO LEE HENRY OSWALD, BORN ON 18 OCTOBER 1939 IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, A FORMER U.S. MARINE WHO DEFECTED TO THE SOVIET UNION IN OCTOBER 1959 AND LATER MADE ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN MOSCOW TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES WITH HIS RUSSIAN-BORN WIFE, MARINA NIKOLAEVNA PUSAKOVA, AND THEIR

Document Number 6-3

201-289248
(CONTINUED)

For FOIA Review on APR 1976
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OSWALD!
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TO INFO CITE DIR

CHILD.

3. THE INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPH ONE IS BEING DISSEMINATED TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN MEXICO CITY. ANY FURTHER INFORMATION RECEIVED ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE FURNISHED YOU. THIS INFORMATION IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE.

END OF MESSAGE

INFO BASED ON MEXI 6453 (IN 36017) 201-289248

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J. ROMAN
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CONTENTS OF VOLUME IX

1. DIR 90466, 20 December 1963 [FOIA No. 420-757]
2. DIR 97829, 29 January 1964 [FOIA No. 498-204]

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