

TOP SECRET

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND
METHODS INVOLVED

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

19 FEB 1964

Commission No. 384

*orig filed
OSWALD
Mexico*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

SUBJECT: Information Developed by CIA on the
Activity of Lee Harvey OSWALD in
Mexico City, September 28 to
October 3, 1963

1. This refers to your letter of February 10, 1964 relating to information forwarded by this Agency regarding the activity of Lee Harvey OSWALD in Mexico City during the period September 28 to October 3, 1963.

2. The second paragraph of your letter raises a question with regard to reports on current aspects of investigation in Mexico, or concerning Mexican leads in the OSWALD case. Specifically, that paragraph seems to refer to speculative information provided the White House by Jose L. LASAGA which originated with Salvador DIAZ VERNON. CIA has nothing to add to the detailed investigation of this matter conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We assume that the Commission is already in possession, or will be in the near future, of the details of the outcome of that investigation.

3. CIA is cooperating very closely with the FBI in the development of another Mexican lead, as is probably already known to the Commission. If in the course of this cooperation, CIA develops original, substantive material, it is our intention

187908

COPY #1

*noted
2-19-64
J.L.R.*

TOP SECRET

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND
METHODS INVOLVED

TOP SECRET

SENSITIVE SOURCE
METHODS INVOLVED

to report the details to the Commission concurrently with whatever is made available to the Commission by the FBI.

4. The following replies are keyed to the numeration of your letter of February 10:

1. We are not in a position to supply copies of telegrams sent between the Soviet Embassies in Washington and Mexico City.

2. Translations of the two police interrogation reports of Silvia DURAN are being forwarded to the Commission under separate cover.

3. From all the evidence on hand, we deduce that OSWALD visited the Cuban Consulate in Mexico City on the afternoon of 27 September 1963 and again some time on 28 September 1963. There is no evidence that he visited it more often than once on the days mentioned, but we cannot exclude these possibilities. The wording in paragraph seven of our report, on pages four and five, is based on the statements of Silvia DURAN and means that OSWALD was at the Consulate at least once after his initial visit, and that this later visit was on the afternoon of a day on which the Cuban Consul telephoned the Soviet Consulate about OSWALD's visa problem. This may well have been 28 September, but we cannot be certain of this conclusion.

4. We do not know whether Cuban Consulate archives contained information on OSWALD antedating his September-October 1963 visit. From the statements of Silvia DURAN, one could conclude that she had never heard of OSWALD until he visited the Consulate in late September 1963. The file on OSWALD which Silvia DURAN mentions is the one she opened on him at that time and which she looked up again when OSWALD's name was published as the probable assassin of President Kennedy.

107008

COPY #1

-2-

TOP SECRET

SENSITIVE SOURCE AND
METHODS INVOLVEDCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

TOP SECRET

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND
METHODS EMPLOYED

5. We do not think it would be unusual for Silvia DURAN to tell OSWALD he could not have a Cuban transit visa unless he first got a Soviet visa. Such frank statements are quite common in consular practice, as far as we know.

6. We believe that Silvia DURAN's statement that OSWALD knew no one in Cuba meant literally that, and this would mean that no one there could sponsor him, vouch for him, or insure that he would not become a public charge. On the other hand, the remark of the Soviet official would seem to imply that the Soviets had no previous record of OSWALD, at least in Mexico, if indeed the Soviet official was telling the truth.

7. We believe that OSWALD both telephoned to the Soviet Embassy or Consulate, and was interviewed by officials there.

8. We cannot be sure what OSWALD meant by his allusions to his address. He went to Mexico while he was moving his family from New Orleans to Texas, and he may have acquired a new Texas forwarding address in the process which he gave first to the Cuban Consulate, then mislaid or forgot, and finally recovered from Cuban Consulate files so he could pass it to the Soviet Consulate. It could also be that he was talking about his Mexico City hotel address which he might have momentarily forgotten while at the Soviet Consulate.

9. The Cuban Consulate and Cuban Embassy in Mexico City are separate offices located in separate buildings that stand on adjacent lots separated by a Cuban official parking lot. The Cuban Consulate is on a corner at Marquez and Zamora Streets and the Embassy is at 160 Marquez Street. The Soviet Embassy and Consulate are both located in a large mansion with connected outbuildings.

10. We surmise that the references in OSWALD's 9 November letter to a man who had since been replaced

127908
#1

-3-

TOP SECRET

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE SOURCES AND
METHODS EMPLOYED

GROUP 1
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION

TOP SECRET

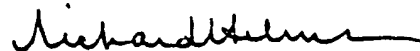
WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE SOURCE AND
METHODS INVOLVED

must refer to Cuban Consul Eusebio AZCUE, who left Mexico for Cuba on permanent transfer on 18 November 1963, four days before the assassination. AZCUE had been in Mexico for eighteen years and it was known to us as early as September 1963 that AZCUE was to be replaced. His replacement did arrive in September. AZCUE was scheduled to leave in October but did not leave until 18 November.

We do not know who might have told OSWALD that AZCUE or any other Cuban had been or was to be replaced, but we speculate that Silvia DURAN or some Soviet official might have mentioned it if OSWALD complained about AZCUE's altercation with him.

11. We have no additional information on OSWALD's activities in Mexico City. This part of the investigation was handled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation through its own facilities. All of our sources have been queried for further information but none has been developed. Neither pro- nor anti-CASTRO persons or groups have produced what we regard as hard information.

12. We can only guess why Silvia DURAN described OSWALD as a blonde. Perhaps his complexion seemed light to her, compared with that of most Latin Americans. When she was arrested, she had not seen OSWALD for about two months, but apparently she had noted him as a blonde in her Consular records.



Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

187908

#1

-4-

TOP SECRET

WARNING NOTICE
SENSITIVE SOURCE AND
METHODS INVOLVED

SECRET

Commission No. 426

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

21 FEB 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

SUBJECT: Translations of Interrogation
Reports of Silvia DURAN

This is responsive to numbered paragraph two, in your letter to this Agency dated February 10, 1964 and is further to my reply of February 19, 1964.

There are attached translations, from the Spanish, of the results of interrogations of Silvia DURAN and her husband in Mexico City during the period 23 to 28 November 1963.

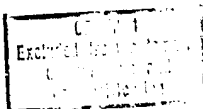
These interrogations were conducted by the Mexican police in the course of their follow-up of the OSWALD case after the assassination. [These materials were given to us by the Mexican police agency that performed the interrogation.]



Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

Attachments - 2

SECRET



6 11 422

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

SECRET

44-H
Action
NRD
Info
RNR

Control: 16978
Rec'd: NOVEMBER 25, 1963
11:45 P.M.

FROM: MEXICO CITY
TO: Secretary of State
NO: 1182, NOVEMBER 25, 10 P.M.

ROGER CHANNEL

005

I AM PROUD OF MY INTELLIGENCE STAFF AND BELIEVE THEY ARE THE BEST. BUT WE ARE CONDUCTING WHAT MAY TURN OUT TO BE A SIGNIFICANT SEGMENT OF THE TOTAL INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY WITHOUT DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF ALL THE FACTS AVAILABLE TO WASHINGTON.

I THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT AN F.B.I. OFFICER THOROUGHLY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT ALL ASPECTS OF THE U.S. END OF THE INVESTIGATION BE SENT HERE TO CONSULT WITH US FOR A FEW DAYS. HIS KNOWLEDGE OF FACTS MAY GIVE US LEADS WE DO NOT NOW HAVE. THE F.B.I. AND C.I.A. REPRESENTATIVES HERE CONCUR.

MANN

BA/22.

SECRET

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

12000

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

SECRET

59-I.

Origin
INRD
Info:
RMR

ACTION: Anembassy MEXICO CITY 958

Nov 26 / 39 PM '63

ROGER CHANNEL.

~~EYE ONLY AMBASSADOR~~
FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ALEXIS JOHNSON

Your 1182 discussed with CIA and Justice with strong endorsement your recommendation. Justice discussed with Director FBI, who feels local FBI rep has been ~~given~~ ^{all} ~~information~~ information available here and offices detailed to Mexico City could not add anything of material importance. Hoover suggests that if local FBI rep feels he needs additional assistance he make request to Washington through his channels.

RUSK

Drafted by:

G:UAJohnson:ges 11/26/63

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

TNR - G. C. Denney

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Clearances:

SECRET

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "OFFICIAL USE ONLY" OR "UNCLASSIFIED"

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
 CHARGE TOSECRET

35

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy MEXICO CITY 961

INRD
InfoNov 27 12 32 PM '63
Special Handling

RMR

ROGER CHANNEL.

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ALEXIS JOHNSON

I ~~ma~~ want you to know that initiative and thoroughness with which you and your colleagues pursuing all aspects of Oswald matter in Mexico deeply appreciated by all here. For your own background, FBI is ~~now~~ considered to be in full charge of investigation and CIA and State have made it clear that we expect FBI to QUOTE call the shots UNQUOTE. All your messages through CAS channels are of ~~course~~ course immediately passed to FBI. As indicated in my message yesterday, FBI man Mexico City is supposed to be fully briefed, and this morning I urged that he be authorized keep you fully informed if he/~~has~~ ^{is} not already doing so. I stressed to Katzenbach, who has full confidence in you, your anxiety and desire to be of maximum possible helpfulness. In State, solely myself for time being am handling your and CAS traffic on subject on behalf of Secretary and Dick Helms is doing same in Agency on behalf John McCone.

In event your FBI man has not briefed you, you should know that, with respect to Alvarado's story, it has been verified that ~~the~~ Oswald

Drafted by

G:UAJohnson:ges 11/27/63

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by

INR/DDC - Joseph W. Scott

Clearances

SECRETREPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS
PROHIBITED UNLESS "OFFICIAL USE
ONLY" OR "UNCLASSIFIED"FORM DS-322
5-61

SECRET

was in New Orleans on September 17, and information from landlady confirms that he was in US through September 25. This of course fits in with entry into Mexico on September 26. Thus, it did not appear that sufficient validity had yet been established for ~~the~~ Alvarado's story to justify arrests suggested in your CAS ~~channel~~ channel message yesterday afternoon and, so far as I ~~know~~ know up to the present time, FBI shares this view.

Do not hesitate to get in touch with me through this or ~~any other~~ ^{or by phone} channel/any time you desire, and your reports and recommendations will continue to be welcome.

CAS

RUSK

SECRET

1 2 7 4 9

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
 CHARGE TO

SECRET

59-L

ACTION: Amembassy MEXICO CITY 969

Nov 27 7 37 PM '63

Origin

INRD

Info

RMR

005

ROGER CHANNEL.

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ALEXIS JOHNSON.

FBI is sending agent to Mexico City tonight.

Although full text not yet received here from CIA, understand you have transmitted to Secretary message this afternoon suggesting further arrests and interrogations by Mexicans. I have discussed with Justice and FBI, who state that they would not at this time desire recommend any further arrests by Mexicans. They of course have no objection to any interrogation of suspects that Mexicans may undertake on own initiative ~~by the Mexican authorities~~ but FBI does not believe that at moment there are any further initiatives we should urge on Mexicans. If and when FBI considers such initiatives should be taken they will communicate with you through Department or through your Legal Attache.

RUSK

Drafted by:

G:UAJohnson:ges 11/27/63

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

INR/DDC - Mr. Scott

Clearances:

SECRET

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "OFFICIAL USE ONLY" OR "UNCLASSIFIED"

EVENTS AND PERSONALITIES INVOLVED WITH OSWALD IN CUBAN EMBASSY
IS STRIVING.

4

AT 12:15 PM MEXICAN TIME 22 NOVEMBER CAS OFFICER WAS ADVISED OVER TELEPHONE BY LUIS E. ECHEVARRIA, ACTING MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT THAT HE HAD BELIEVED OSWALD VIA DURAN TODAY BECAUSE OSWALD HAD STATED HE WOULD LEAVE MEXICO FOR HAVANA AND RETURN TO HIS LEGAL ATTACHE THAT HE HAD BELIEVED OSWALD WOULD AVOID ANY POSSIBILITY OF BEING AVAILABLE AS A WITNESS. YESTERDAY TELEGRAM WE HAVE NOT BEEN SPECIFIC CONCERNING ANY ACTION AGAINST OSWALD BUT WE DO MAINTAIN INCREASED SURVEILLANCE OF HER ACTIVITIES THROUGH OUR LEGAL ATTACHE THAT HE HAD ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THAT SHE WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR CUBA. WE DO NOT KNOW WHICH ECHEVARRIA STATEMENTS ARE ACCURATE AND WHICH ARE NOT PROBABLE, THAT CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS MADE BY ECHEVARRIA ARE EXPLAINED BY DESIRE OF GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO TO PLAY DOWN IMPORTANCE OF OSWALD VISIT HERE. MEXICAN LINE STILL IS THAT OSWALD VISIT RELATED SOLELY TO VISA QUESTION. CONSISTENT WITH THIS, ECHEVARRIA STATED THAT HE WAS INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT OSWALD'S INTENTIONS TO BUY A STORY FROM SILVIA DURAN. THIS IS AN INACCURATE INTERPRETATION. NEITHER LOPES NETA NOR ECHEVARRIA TOLD OF ALVARADO'S STORY. PLEASE NOTE THAT JACOBINO ECHEVARRIA DURAN IS BEING TAKEN TO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE WHICH MEXICAN PRESS HAS EASY ACCESS. POSSIBLE CONTACTS WITH OSWALD UNACCOUNTED.

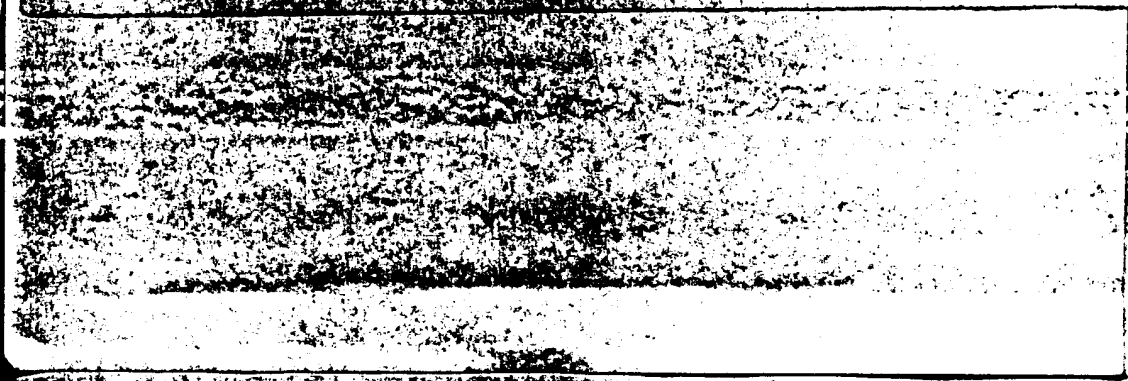
4. WE HAVE NOT FOUND TO THIS DATE THE RED-HEADED CUBAN NEGRO DESCRIBED BY ALVARADO, BUT ARE CONTINUING OUR SEARCH FOR HIM.

5. IN ADDITION TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN YESTERDAY'S TELEGRAM WASHINGTON SHOULD URGENTLY CONSIDER FEASIBILITY OF REQUESTING MEXICAN AUTHORITIES TO ARREST FOR INTERROGATION: EUSEBIO AZCUE; LUISA CALDERON; AND ALFREDO MIRABAL. THE TWO MEN ARE CUBAN

CD1114

NATIONALS AND CUBAN CONSULAR OFFICERS. LUISA CALUCRON IS A
 SECRETARY IN CUBAN CONSULATE HERE. PERTINENT CONNECTION ARTICLE
 II OF CONSULAR CONVENTION BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND MEXICO EXEMPT
 FROM ARREST "CONSULAR OFFICERS, NATIONALS OF THE STATE BY WHICH
 THEY ARE APPOINTED, AND NOT ENGAGED IN ANY PRIVATE OCCUPATION
 FOR WHICH THEY ARE PAID EXCEPT WHEN CHARGED WITH THE
 COMMISSION OF AN ACT DESIGNATED BY LOCAL LEGISLATION AS
 CRIMINAL, THAT VIOLATIONS AND SUBJECTING THE INDIVIDUAL
 GUILTY THEREOF TO PUNISHMENT BY IMPRISONMENT." WE ARE CHECKING
 TO SEE WHETHER ALL OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE ON CURRENT CONSULAR
 LIST. EVEN ASSUMING THIS IS TRUE, AND ASSUMING ALSO THAT CUBAN-
 MEXICAN CONSULAR CONVENTION IS SIMILAR TO OURS, THEY WOULD
 ALL BE SUBJECT TO ARREST PROVIDED MEXICAN LAW DEFINES
 THEIR OFFENSES AS CRIMINALS, NOT A CRIME AND NOT A
 MISDEMEANOR. THEY MAY ALL QUICKLY BE RETURNED TO HAVANA IN
 ORDER TO ELIMINATE ANY POSSIBILITY THAT MEXICAN GOVERNMENT
 COULD USE THEM AS WITNESSES. WE KNOW THAT AZQUE WENT TO HAVANA
 ON NOVEMBER 1961. WE WOULD LIKE TO CERTAIN THAT HE OR OTHERS
 ARE NOT BEING USED AS WITNESSES. WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT
 THAT TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE HERE.

4



4

142 MR JOHNSON
3 INR/D
4 MR SCOTT

SECRET

WILL GOER

SS1618

OO YEKADN

DE YEKADN 07/07/68 07/07/68 NY

O 278072Z

FM CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

STATE ROI

ZEN FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ZEN

S E S E

WHITE HOUSE ATTN: MR GEORGE BUNNY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE ATTN: MR RUSK

FBI ATTN: MR HOOVER

AMEMBASSY WASH DC MEXICO CITY ASKS THAT FOLLOWING BE PASSED

TO SECRETARY RUSK, MR MOONEY, AND MR HOOVER:

"FOR SECRETARY RUSK, MR MOONEY, AND MR HOOVER:

1. THIS MESSAGE REPRESENTS COMBINED SUGGESTIONS OF MYSELF,
CIA STATION CHIEF AND FBI RESIDENT AGENT.

2. IN VIEW OF REPORT FROM THE NICARAGUAN GILBERTO ALVARADO
AND INFORMATION CONTAINED IN TAPED LONG-DISTANCE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

BETWEEN PRESIDENT DORTICOS OF CUBAN AND CUBAN AMBASSADOR HERNANDEZ
 ARMAS IN MEXICO CITY WE SUGGEST THAT MEXICANS BE INFORMED AND THAT THE
 NICARAGUAN BE PUT AT THE DISPOSITION OF PRESIDENT LOPEZ MATEOS ⁴
 CONDITION THAT LOPEZ MATEOS WILL AGREE TO ORDER REARREST AND INTERROGATE

AGAIN SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

1. CONFRONT SILVIA DURAN AGAIN WITH NICARAGUAN AND HAVE
 NICARAGUAN INFORM HER OF DETAILS OF HIS STATEMENT TO US, WHO KNOW
 FULL STORY AND PLACE HER IN SAME POSITION AS OSWALD WAS PRIOR TO
 HIS ASSASSINATION. HER ONLY CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL IS TO COME CLEAN WITH
 WHOLE STORY AND TO COOPERATE COMPLETELY WITH MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IN
 RETURN FOR MEXICAN GOVERNMENT PROTECTION.

2. SHE WILL NOT IN ANY CASE BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE MEXICO.

3. GIVEN APPARENT CHARACTER OF SILVIA DURAN THERE WOULD
 APPEAR TO BE GOOD CHANCE OF HER CRACKING WHEN CONFRONTED WITH
 DETAILS OF REPORTED DEAL BETWEEN OSWALD, AZQUE, MIRABAL AND DURAN
 AND THE UNKNOWN CUBAN NEGRO. IF SHE DID BREAK UNDER INTERROGATION--
 AND WE SUGGEST MEXICANS SHOULD BE ASKED TO GO ALL OUT IN SEEING THAT
 SHE DOES, WE AND MEXICANS WOULD HAVE NEEDED CORROBORATION OF STATEMENT
 OF THE NICARAGUAN.

4. WE SUGGEST THAT WE REQUEST MEXICAN GOVERNMENT TO
 IDENTIFY AND ARREST IMMEDIATELY THE UNKNOWN NEGRO, ASSUMING HE HAS
 NOT ALREADY LEFT MEXICO, WHO ACCORDING TO NICARAGUAN'S STORY WAS
 WITNESS TO ALLEGED DEAL WITH OSWALD AND WHO PRESUMABLY DOES NOT
 HAVE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY.

5. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, SUGGEST WE SHOULD IMMEDIATELY
 REQUEST MEXICANS TO ARREST SILVIA DURAN SO AS TO ELIMINATE POSSIBILITY
 OF HER BEING SNUGGLED OUT OF MEXICO TO CUBA OR KILLED HERE. THIS
 SHOULD BE DONE IMMEDIATELY AND IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER WASHINGTON
 DECIDES TO AUTHORIZE US TO ACT ALONG LINES OF OTHER FOREGOING
 RECOMMENDATIONS.

6. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE LACK OF ESTABLISHED RELIABILITY OF
 NICARAGUAN AND DANGER OF REACHING HASTY CONCLUSIONS, WE SUGGEST THAT

DORTCO'S PREOCCUPATION WITH MONEY ANGLE OF INTERROGATION OF SILVIA DURAN TENDS TO CORROBORATE TO SOME EXTENT AUTHENTICITY OF THE NICARAGUAN'S STATEMENT. **4** /
THUS, THERE APPEARS TO BE A STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT A DOWN PAYMENT WAS MADE TO OSWALD IN THE CUBAN EMBASSY HERE, PRESUMABLY WITH PROMISE OF A SUBSEQUENT PAYMENT AFTER ASSASSINATION.

7. REQUEST DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS AS SOON AS FEASIBLE.
REQUEST IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS ON WHETHER WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST LOPEZ MATEOS TO RETURN AND TAKE SILVIA DURAN INTO PROTECTIVE CUSTODY. DANGER OF HER DISAPPEARANCE OR MURDER MAY BE IMMEDIATE AND GREAT.

CIP-5

788

WOM

FOR 7/7/57

~~SECRET~~

Commission No. 448

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

5 - MAR 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin

SUBJECT: Summary of Findings in Regard
to Allegations by Mohammed REGGAB
Relative to Marina OSWALD

1. On 26 November 1963, Mohammed REGGAB, a Moroccan student in West Berlin, made a statement that he could supply information on a "Marina Nikolevna" who he asserted was identical with Mrs. Marina OSWALD. The attachment is a summary of our findings in regard to REGGAB's allegation. The report covers investigation including polygraphing in Berlin and inquiries conducted in Morocco during the period 26 November 1963 to 1 March 1964.

2. It is our conclusion that REGGAB's story of his acquaintance with Mrs. Marina OSWALD is a fabrication.

3. We will communicate promptly to the Commission any additional information that comes to our attention on the REGGAB matter as a consequence of the continuing interest on the part of our stations in Berlin and Morocco.

4. A copy of this summary of findings is being furnished as a matter of information to the FBI and to the Secret Service.

Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

Attachment

~~SECRET~~