

CIA/HRP Declassification/Release Instructions on File

A PASSPORT WHICH WAS QUICKLY OBTAINED

One may assume that the FBI desired to have a list of the pro-Castro sympathizers Oswald is alleged to have met while he carried out his duties (which he himself divulged) as spokesman for the Fair Play for Cuba movement. Regardless of whether his reasons for having furnished or promised to furnish this information were for personal gain or patriotism, one thing appears clear: being beaten up by anti-Castro sympathizers was not in his eyes a very pleasant way to eke out a livelihood. Following Bringuier's revelation of Oswald's double role (TN. he was in the pay of the FBI and of the pro-Castro group in New Orleans), Oswald became suspect in the eyes of both. He left again for Texas, from which point he became an agent for three or four masters.

I in fact do not believe that the FBI was the only Federal organ which was interested in Oswald.

There are some very valid reasons for thinking that other organs, such as the Central Intelligence Agency, were interested in this spy under authority.

In no other way can the following fact be explained: on 24 June 1963, Oswald, who at the time of his return from the USSR wrote that he detested that country, submitted a request to the Department of State for a passport in order to return to the Soviet Union. This request, from an avowed pro-Communist and former turncoat, was not only approved, but the approval was given within twenty-four hours of the request. Whoever requests a passport in the U.S., even for a visit to Western Europe, knows that it takes a special act of intervention to get it within twenty-four hours. But in the case of Oswald, whose background was well known, a detailed investigation of his request was automatic, indeed obligatory under terms of the McCarran Act, which inter alia prohibits American Communists from traveling outside of the Western Hemisphere.

We therefore have two precise facts: Oswald got his passport without undergoing an investigation under terms of the McCarran Act; and he was also employed as a clerk by the city of Dallas without the investigation which a Texas law on the control of subversives requires. He could not have gotten either without the intervention of a governmental organ which had him under authority.

Now it appears that there was not one but two official interventions, and it is quite possible that neither of the two governmental organs was knowledgeable that each considered Oswald as one of its members. This is the danger in the US: there are so many different organs investigating Communism and so few authentic Communists that the secret services are compelled to share them. The results are sometimes catastrophic.