

MEMORANDUM

November 29, 1995

To: Jeremy Gunn

From: Eric Scheinkopf

Subject: Chronological Summary of Information on Lee Harvey Oswald Culled
from Department of State Files

I have completed my review of the State Department files at Archives II in an effort to verify that the information cited in the Chronological Summary of Information on Lee Harvey Oswald Culled from Department of State Files can indeed be found at Archives II. All of the information is there with three minor exceptions. This document will be referred to as the "CS" in this memo.

The document says its information comes from the following sources in the State Department: the Passport Office, EUR, SCS, SY and for Marina Oswald the Visa Office. The chronology begins on September 4, 1959 with Lee Harvey Oswald applying for a passport and ends with an October 10, 1963 CIA cable regarding his travels in Mexico City. There is also information on his repatriation loan that is not dated.

Exception #1

The May 12, 1960 entry deals with the issue of funds sent by Oswald's mother to him in Russia. This document is an FBI report but the State Department has only the synopsis page which lists some but not all of the facts cited in the May 12, 1960 entry in the CS. More of the information is handwritten on a 1964 draft document that I believe was compiled by Carroll Seeley of the State Department for William Coleman. The "Seeley document" notes that a copy of the May 12, 1960 report is not in the file. It may well be that the entry on the CS was made when the official doing that section had the full May 12, 1960 report in his or her possession.

Exception #2

The July 26, 1960 entry in the CS discusses a letter sent to Representative Jim Wright from the Director of the Passport Office and says that relevant copies of previous correspondence were included. That correspondence has been tracked down and the only document not in the State files at NARA is a copy of the relevant page from the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 that was sent to Oswald's mother. I believe it is possible that in the days before xerox machines that State did not bother to include a copy of it in its Oswald files since the item in question is part of a public document.

Exception #3

The final exception deals with the entry for October 10, 1963 which deals with a CIA cable on Oswald. The CS has a note in parentheses (this may mean another source) that says the Passport watch list contains an entry for a Milke Oswald born in Mexico on August 6, 1903. Milke Oswald was not mentioned in the October 10 cable. I believe it is possible that the official compiling the CS had access to the Passport watch list which is not necessarily in the State files on Kennedy at NARA.

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