

### 3. In the USSR

Various authors interested in Lee Harvey Oswald have suggested that Oswald was a CIA source, asset or operative at the time of his defection to the USSR in October 1959. There have been further suggestions that Oswald either was performing some sort of mission for the CIA, met with CIA personnel in the Soviet Union, or was debriefed by CIA personnel upon his return.

*a. CIA operations in Moscow.* Extensive CIA records concerning the history and operations of the CIA in or against the Soviet Union in the late 1950s and early to mid 1960s were examined by the Review Board staff. No evidence was located to demonstrate that Oswald had ever worked for the CIA in any capacity nor that his trip and defection to the Soviet Union had any intelligence purpose. The Review Board staff also interviewed the senior CIA officer in Moscow at the time of Oswald's arrival and the Chief of Station present when Oswald departed the Soviet Union. Neither individual had any knowledge of Oswald prior to the assassination nor did they believe that Oswald's trip and defection to the Soviet Union was orchestrated for any intelligence purpose.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For additional information see staff memorandum by Michelle Combs and the two interview reports.