

June 6, 1996

Colonel Oleg Maximovich Nechiporenko
26/2-269, ul. A.k. Kapitsa
117647 Moscow
Russia

Dear Colonel Nechiporenko:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Assassination Records Review Board, an independent Agency of the U.S. government established pursuant to the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994). The Review Board, whose members are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, is charged with collecting and declassifying records related to the assassination of President Kennedy.

As part of our mandate, we have been reviewing and declassifying CIA records relating to Lee Harvey Oswald's trip to Mexico City in September-October 1963. Based on your account of these events in *Passport to Assassination*, we would like to ask you some questions concerning your encounter with Mr. Oswald. For your convenience, we have cited page numbers to the English language version to aid you in your response.

- When did you first see Oswald's letter to the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C.? (p. 70)
- How did you learn that Soviet internal counterintelligence in Moscow had already studied Oswald? (p. 72)
- You describe Valery Kostikov as an operative in the First Chief Directorate. Was he a member of the 13th Department, KGB, Executive Action? (p. 73)
- What evidence did you have of Oswald carrying out a secret mission? (pp. 76-77)
- In your opinion, was Oswald more concerned about finding a way to Cuba or the Soviet Union? And was Cuba or the Soviet Union the focus of his discussion? (p. 78)
- What did you, Kostikov, and Pavel Yatskov write in your "reports" to Moscow Center on the

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day of Oswald's visit to the Soviet Embassy, September, 28, 1963? Where are these documents today? How could we obtain copies? (p. 81)

- You mention a Special Communication No. 550 from Mexico dated October 3, 1963. How is this communication connected with the September 28, 1963 reports prepared and sent by you, Kostikov, and Yatskov? Are they the same? Where is this communication today? Again, how could we obtain a copy? (p. 95)

In addition to these questions related to your book, we also would like any advice that you may have on acquiring further documentation on Oswald's visit to Mexico City as well as the Soviet Union.

We look forward to your responses and would be happy to provide you with any additional information you might request. Should you come to the United States, we would be very interested in speaking with you personally.

Sincerely yours,

T. Jeremy Gunn

General Counsel

Associate Director for Research & Analysis