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AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : CIA  
RECORD NUMBER : 104-10307-10046  
RECORD SERIES : JFK  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : LA DIV WORK FILE

Released under the John  
F. Kennedy  
Assassination Records  
Collection Act of 1992  
(44 USC 2107 Note).  
Case#:NW 53217 Date:  
06-22-2017

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

AGENCY ORIGINATOR : CIA  
FROM :  
TO :  
TITLE : MEMORANDUM:OSWALD CONTACTS WITH CUBAN AND SOVIET  
EMBASSIES, MEXICO CITY, DURING THE PERIOD 27 SEPTEMBER  
1963 TO 1 OCTOBER 1963.  
DATE : 01/01/1900  
PAGES : 4  
  
SUBJECTS : OSWALD, L H  
  
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER  
CLASSIFICATION : UNCLASSIFIED  
RESTRICTIONS : 1B  
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED IN PART PUBLIC - RELEASED WITH DELETIONS  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 11/19/98  
COMMENTS : JFK-WF01 : F6 : 1998.11.19.09:36:42:170120 : DUPLICATE  
OF 104-10413-10049 (JFK-RH08, F148).

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10307-10046

SUBJECT: OSWALD contacts with Cuban and Soviet Embassies, Mexico City, Mexico, during the period 27 September 1963 to 1 October 1963

1. ODESSA Calls.
2. OSWALD Calls.
3. Original Transcripts.

FINDINGS:

1. Calls concerning travel to ODESSA. Three calls were made in the Spanish language on 27 September 1963 concerning travel to Odessa. The first call was made about 1040 hours to the Soviet Military Attache Office. An unidentified man outside asks the Soviet Military Attache what is needed to get a visa to go to Odessa. The Soviet tells him to call 15-60-55 and ask for the consul. The man outside asks for the address which the Soviet provides. 1/ The second call was made about 1037 hours to the Consulate of the Soviet Embassy (15-60-55). An unidentified man asks for the consul and is told that he is not there. The unidentified man asks what is needed to get a visa to go to Odessa and is told to call back at 1130 hours. 2/ The third call occurred at 1235 hours. A man named ALATRISTE (not a Soviet) inside the Soviet Consulate (15-60-55) called out to number 45-37-72 (Colonial America, probably a pension or hotel but not listed in the telephone directory) and speaks with a man named SAN ROMAN. ALATRISTE says that he is in the Russian Embassy and they need to know what day the boat "KALONIA" will arrive in Odessa, that the Soviets will also need copies of the passenger manifest. (The conversation suggests that ALATRISTE and SAN ROMAN were shipping representatives of the boat "KALONIA"). 2/ There is nothing in either of the calls to suggest any connection with OSWALD. There is evidence that the calls were not related to OSWALD: a) in OSWALD'S contacts with Cuban and Soviet officials he made no effort to communicate in Spanish though he appeared to have difficulty with both English and Russian, thus one concludes that he could not speak Spanish. All three calls about Odessa were in fluent Spanish. b) Marina OSWALD in her letter to the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D.C. (reproduced in the Warren Commission Report) asked specifically to go to Leningrad and made no mention of Odessa.

2. There were five telephone calls to or from the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City which (after 22 November 1963) were linked to OSWALD for the period 27 September 1963 to 1 October 1963:

a) Shortly after 1600 hours on 27 September 1963 the Soviet Embassy, Mexico City, received a call from Sylvia DURAN, a Mexican employee in the Cuban Consulate, Mexico City. DURAN had a North-american in her office and wanted to know who he talked with at the Soviet Embassy. She had sent him there for a Soviet visa after which the Cubans would issue one to him. DURAN was told to leave a number for someone to return the call. She gave the Soviets the number of the Cuban Consulate. 3/

(One concludes from this conversation that this Northamerican, later identified by DURAN as OSWALD, went first to the Cuban Embassy on 27 September, then to the Soviet Embassy, and returned to the Cuban Embassy when DURAN made the first call.)

b) At 1626 hours on 27 September a Soviet male in the Soviet Embassy, Mexico City, returned the call to DURAN at the Cuban Embassy and asked if the Northamerican had been there and was told that he was still there (at the Cuban Embassy). The Soviet told DURAN that the Northamerican had shown them letters with their Consulate in Washington requesting a visa for himself and his wife but the process takes 4 to 5 months and they (the Soviet Embassy in Mexico) have no authorization to issue a visa to him and furthermore they (the Soviet Embassy in Mexico) do not know anything about him and cannot give him a letter of recommendation to go to Cuba (enroute to the USSR). DURAN says that in that case he cannot be issued a visa to Cuba either (until he receives permission to go on to the USSR). 4/

c) Shortly before 1200 hours on 28 September 1963 the Soviet Embassy Consulate, Mexico City, received a call from Sylvia DURAN who said she had there in "their" Consulate, the Northamerican who had been to the Soviet Embassy. The Northamerican talks with the Soviet in English and Russian saying he was "just now" at your Embassy and they "took his address" but he didn't know it then and went back to the Cuban Embassy to get it. The Soviet tells him to come back to the Soviet Embassy. The Northamerican agrees to do so right away. 5/

(One concludes from this conversation that OSWALD went to the Soviet Embassy before 1200 hours on 28 September, then to the Cuban Embassy where the call was made, then returned to the Soviet Embassy some time after 1200 hours the same day.)

d) At 1031 hours on 1 October 1963, a man trying to speak Russian called the Soviet Embassy Military Attache Office and said he was at their Embassy "last Saturday" (28 September) and talked with the Consul. He is told to call the number for the Consulate and to write it down. 6/

e) At 1035 hours on 1 October 1963, a man (whose voice was described by the translator as the same person as above) called the Soviet Embassy Consulate. He said this is LEE OSWALD, I was at your place last Saturday and spoke with a Consul who said they would send a telegram to Washington, so I want to find out if you have anything. He did not remember the name of the Consul. The Soviet suggested it was KOSTIKOV, then told the caller that a telegram had gone out but nothing had been received. 7/

- 1/ Transcript dated 27 September 1963 of the Soviet Embassy Military Attache Office, Mexico City, Joint CIA Mexican Government telephone tap operation, Microfilm reel number 177, Job 71-812, Box 1, File: 50-6-75/4.
- 2 / Transcript dated 27 September 1963 of the Soviet Embassy Consulate, Mexico City, Joint CIA Mexican Government telephone tap operation, microfilm reel number 177, Job 71-812, Box 1, File: 50-6-75/4.
- 3/ Same as 2/ above.
- 4/ Transcript dated 27 September 1963 of Soviet Embassy Chancery, Mexico City, Joint CIA Mexican Government telephone tap operation, Microfilm reel number 177, Job 71-812, Box 1, File: 50-6-75/4.
- 5/ Transcript dated 28 September 1963 of the Soviet Embassy Consulate, Mexico City, Joint CIA Mexican Government telephone tap operation, Microfilm reel number 177, Job 71-812, Box 1, File: 50-6-75/4.
- 6/ Transcript dated 1 October 1963 of the Soviet Embassy Military Attache Office, Mexico City, Joint CIA Mexican Government telephone tap operation, Microfilm reel number 178, Job 71-812, Box 1, File: 50-6-75/4.
- 7/ Transcript dated 1 October 1963 of the Soviet Embassy Consulate, Mexico City, Joint CIA Mexican Government telephone tap operation, Microfilm reel number 178, Job 71-812, Box 1, File: 50-6-75/4.