

12/20/71

Dear Howard (PH, JNS),

Paul has gotten CD256:1-10 which I'd like you to remember when you come here in a week or two. I have it filed under Oswald, Russian Language. Briefly, it is a series of FBI reports of interviews at a number of Russian-language places, schools, papers, social, etc., in the Phila area, centered around 28 and Snyder (PH, JNS, deep in South Philadelphia) and in the downtown business area. They are identified as names and address in LHO's possession. I am pretty certain these are all in his pocket notebook, toward the back. I remember wondering what in the hell he was doing with such addresses in Phila. long ago.

PH thinks he could have gotten the data from a phone book. Possible, but I think unlikely and illogical.

If you were not so busy now I'd send this. But when you are here you can take them if you think you can carry it any further.

One of the interesting things to me is that the FBI took so long-end December- to do any checking on this. It is the kind of thing that would ordinarily have flagged their interest. One possible explanation is that they know such things are anti-Communist, and that they didn't like to find in his notebook.

My hunch is that he had some purpose in mind and just didn't do anything with the project.

If LHO had access to a Phila phonebook, he'd not have found all these things listed under "Russian". It would have taken a bit of searching.

PH-I did not have pp. 1-3.

HW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONCommission No. 256

Copy to:

Report of: CHARLES J. WYLAND
Date: January 6, 1964Office: Philadelphia
PennsylvaniaField Office File #: 105-9958Bureau File #: 105-82555Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALDCharacter: INTERNAL SECURITY - R - CUBA

Synopsis: Officers and records of American Preparatory School, Russian-American Citizens Club, Allied Language Newspapers, Russian Brotherhood Organization of U.S.A., and Universal School for Languages, all Philadelphia, Pa., failed to reflect any information concerning OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE. Officers unable to explain how OSWALD had names in his possession.

- P -

DETAILS: At Philadelphia, Pa.Re: Address Book of
LEE HARVEY OSWALD

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CD 256 PAGE 1

Date 12/30/63

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Dr. MAURICE LIPSCHUTZ, Director, American Preparatory School, 1212 Spruce Street, and interpreter for the Intelligence Department of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Philadelphia, advised he teaches numerous languages, including Russian, at this school. Past records of students and correspondence have been destroyed and he was unable to recall having taught, received correspondence, or communicated with LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE.

LIPSCHUTZ stated although his school is known as the American Preparatory School it is sometimes referred to as a Russian language school. Most of the classes in this school are on an individual basis and he has made it his practice to become associated to all his students.

On 12/30/63 at Philadelphia, Pa. File # Philadelphia 105-9958
by SA CHARLES J. WYLAND:ELS/djs Date dictated 12/30/63

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CD 256

Date 12/31/63

ROSALIE WAGMAN, Bookkeeper, Allied Language Newspapers, Jefferson Building, 1015 Chestnut Street, advised the Philadelphia Office of the Russian daily paper accepts only classified advertisements.

A review of her records failed to reflect any reference to LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE. The list of subscribers and correspondents is maintained at the office of "Novoye Russkoye Slovo," 243 West 56th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

WAGMAN was unable to explain how the name, the Russian daily paper, Jefferson Building, was in the possession of OSWALD.

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by SA CHARLES J. WYLAND /ajw Date dictated 12/31/63

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COPIES

Date 12/31/63

JOHN PEREGRIM, Financial Secretary, Russian Brotherhood Organization of U. S. A., 1733 Spring Garden Street, advised he has been an officer of this organization for more than a year and after a review of his records advised they failed to reflect any account or reference to LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE.

PEREGRIM also stated he was familiar with the name of OSWALD, after having read about the assassination of President KENNEDY and he was unable to locate any reference to him.

PEREGRIM stated the Russian Brotherhood Organization is a fraternal insurance society, offering insurance and mortgages to Christian people of Russian or Slavonic descent. The majority of lodges in this society are for the most part affiliated with Russian Orthodox Churches.

PEREGRIM was unable to explain how the name of this society was found among addresses in OSWALD's possession.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/31/63

PETER SNEY, Recording Secretary, Russian Brotherhood Organization of U. S. A., 1733 Spring Garden Street, advised he has been with this society since 1932 and he also reviewed the records of this organization and was unable to locate any reference to LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE.

The Russian Brotherhood Organization is a fraternal insurance society which offers insurance and mortgages to Christian people of Russian or Slavonic descent. This particular society was founded in 1900 and has a license to sell insurance in 22 states.

SNEY was unable to explain how the name of the Russian Brotherhood Organization of U. S. A. ever got into the address book of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CD 256

Date 12/31/63

Doctor H. WALTER WENKAERT, Director, Universal School for Languages, 216 South 20th Street, advises he teaches and arranges for language training for approximately 12 foreign languages, including Russian, and in the past his institution has often been referred to as the Russian Language Training School.

WENKAERT reviewed his records and stated he was unable to recall or locate any reference to LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE.

WENKAERT further stated he does not teach all of these languages but does make arrangements for them to meet with other language specialists, but all students must pass through his office before being enrolled.

WENKAERT stated he was unable to recall OSWALD or PAINE and could not recall ever having received any correspondence from them.

WENKAERT was unable to explain how the name Russian Language Training School, 216 South 20th Street, ever got into the address book of OSWALD, unless it was copied from the Philadelphia telephone directory.

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CD 256

Date 1/6/64

SIMEON FETCHINA, 1619 South Dover Street, advised he had been secretary of the Russian-American Citizens Club at 2730 Snyder Avenue for a number of years, up to and including 1945. Since that time he has remained active in the Holy Virgin Church at 28th Street and Snyder Avenue and has been closely acquainted with the officers and members of this particular club.

FETCHINA stated he was unable to recall ever hearing the names of LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE in connection with this club and felt certain the records of this club did not contain any membership or other reference to them.

FETCHINA also stated the Russian-American Citizens Club was a club sponsored by the Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church at 28th Street and Snyder Avenue.

On 1/2/64 at Philadelphia, Pa. File # Philadelphia 105-9958

by SA CHARLES J. WYLAND /djs Date dictated 1/2/64

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CD

Date 1/6/64

JOHN RABIK, 2815 Winton Street, advised he was the past president of the Russian-American Citizens Club, 2730 Snyder Avenue, and is presently a trustee of the Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church at 28th Street and Snyder Avenue, as well as a trustee of the Russian-American Citizens Club.

RABIK stated the records of this club failed to reflect any reference for LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE.

RABIK explained an individual could not be a member of the club unless he was a member of the church which sponsors it. Unknown members can only attend the social if accompanied by members.

RABIK was unable to explain how the name of the club was found among the addresses in OSWALD's possession.

On 1/3/64 at Philadelphia, Pa. File # Philadelphia 105-9958

by SA LARRY WILLS /dls Date dictated 1/3/64

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CD

Date 1/6/64

JOHN DRIMAK, 2747 Snyder Avenue, advised he has been secretary, vice president, and trustee of the Russian-American Citizens Club, 2730 Snyder Avenue, since 1956 and was unable to recall the name of LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE ever being associated with that club.

DRIMAK stated although unknown members frequently attend socials sponsored by that club they must be accompanied by known members and are usually known by the officers of the club. DRIMAK stated that OSWALD and PAINE are unknown to him and he was unable to explain how the name of this club was ever referred to OSWALD.

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CPD

Date 1/6/64

WILLIAM KAUCHOK, 6321 Greenway Avenue, advised he is the financial secretary of the Russian-American Citizens Club, 2730 Snyder Avenue, and his records failed to reflect that LEE HARVEY OSWALD or RUTH HYDE PAINE were ever members of that club.

KAUCHOK advised it is possible OSWALD attended the club as a social guest but he would have to attend the social with a known member. KAUCHOK advised he was unable to recall the names of OSWALD or PAINE ever having attended any socials at that club.

KAUCHOK further advised he was unable to furnish any information indicating how the name of the club was ever referred to OSWALD.

On 1/2/64 at Philadelphia, Pa. File # Philadelphia 105-9958

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