

MU'roup Bill 6-2042



One Man - One Boy

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May 22, 1964

Commission Exhibit No. 2223

Mr. J. Lee Rankin,  
 General Counsel  
 President's Commission on the  
 Assassination of President Kennedy  
 200 Maryland Avenue, N.E.  
 Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Rankin:

In accordance with my letter of May 4th, I am forwarding herewith a complete record of our Agency file on Lee Harvey Oswald. Said file covers the period from December, 1953 to January, 1954.

Included herein are the following items:

- a) A letter from Mr. John Carro, Probation Officer in the Bronx Domestic Relations Court, dated December 2, 1953, together with the probation report of that Court, which I assume was prepared for the guidance of the Justices of the Court.
- b) A "face sheet" on Lee Harvey Oswald indicating that this is our case No. 12335. It is our practice to prepare such a "face sheet" on every client who is accepted for service by the Agency.
- c) A two-page record carrying a summary of all our contacts with Lee Harvey Oswald and/or his mother, and/or the appropriate officers of the Court. Said contacts are dated

Mr. J. Lee Rankin

-2-

May 22, 1964

12/1, 12/15, 12/17, 12/23/53, and 1/4, 1/5, 1/6 and 1/10/54.

Please be advised that Item C above was also forwarded, under date of December 3, 1963, to Mr. Hugo Winterdat at the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 201 East 69th Street, New York 21, N.Y.

You will find attached herewith an affidavit, properly executed, to the effect that the material enclosed herewith represents the full and complete file in this office on the case of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Please excuse the delay in transmitting this material to you.

Respectfully,

HOWARD A. KIDVAL  
 Executive Director

HAK/b  
Enc.

P.S.

I should have mentioned that the caseworker whose initials you find on the record ("W.E.G.") is William E. Grote, who retired from this agency in 1956. His present age is approximately 75 years. In my conversations with him after the assassination of President Kennedy, I had the feeling that his memory was distinctly hazy and that I was probing his recollections rather than that he was independently supplying me with information above and beyond what he recorded at the time of his very brief association with young Oswald and with Mrs. Oswald. If, for any reason, however, the Commission should wish to communicate with Mr. Grote directly, his present address is 99 Metropolitan Oval, Bronx, New York.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2223—Continued

Big Brothers Inc., 223 East 30th Street, New York 10, N. Y.

NY Group Bill 6, 2012



One Man - One Boy

A F F I D A V I T

STATE OF NEW YORK }  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK }

SS.:

I, Howard A. Kieval, the undersigned, Executive Director of Big Brothers, Inc., 223 East 30th Street, New York 16, New York, do hereby swear and affirm that I have caused a thorough search to be made of the case record files of Big Brothers, Inc. of New York, and that the materials forwarded herewith to the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy represent the full and complete file of data available at this office on the case of Lee Harvey Oswald (our Case No. 12355, opened 12/1/53 and closed 1/10/54).

HOWARD A. KIEVAL  
Executive Director,  
Big Brothers, Inc. of New York

Sworn to and subscribed before  
me this 22nd day of May, 1964

RUSSELL J. FORNWALL  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 31-127650

Notary in Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens • Affiliated with the State Bar of New York and Big Brothers of America

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2223—Continued

TRUE COPY

12335

OSWALD, LEE

REFERRED: Bronx Children's Court - 12/1/53. See court papers for details.

- 12/1/53 Received telephone call from Mr. Carro, probation officer, referring Lee Oswald of 825 East 179th Street for Big Brother supervision. Requested that Mr. Carro send us a copy of the court papers. WEG.
- 12/15/53 (delayed due to illness) Called at the home of Lee Oswald. Not finding anyone there, left card in door. WEG.
- 12/17/53 Received telephone call from Mrs. Oswald who stated that she found our card on returning home from work and wished to know the reason for our contact. Explained to her that Mr. Carro, probation officer of the Children's Court had asked that become interested in her son Lee. She seemed quite disturbed stating something to the effect that how long was this thing going to last because since the boy had returned from Youth House, he had been attending school each day and from all accounts was doing well. Could sense that Mrs. Oswald was rather disturbed about this matter and tried to give her an idea of what the Big Brother program was. She seemed to calm down considerably and suggested that Lee stop in at the office some time during the Christmas holidays. She did not take too kindly to this idea and advised that we would stop in at the home some evening as soon as possible. WEG.
- 12/23/53 Called at the home of Lee Oswald but no one was at home. Will call again. WEG.
- 1/4/54 This evening about 7:30 called at the home. Met Mrs. Oswald and Lee. Was cordially received by both the mother and boy. Mrs. Oswald stated that inasmuch as Lee was attending school and doing well and had been so ever since his return from Youth House, she could see no reason why there should be so much investigation. Again explained to Mrs. Oswald the nature of Big Brother work and learned that, as suggested by the probation officer, she had taken out a membership for Lee at the West Side Y.M.C.A. and he spent every Saturday there. She also stated that he was not the type of boy who cared for group activities preferring to remain at home watching TV, working on his stamp collection, etc. Lee was friendly although it was apparent that he was also displeased with the idea of being forced to join various "Y" organizations about which he cared little. During the conversation, Mrs. Oswald stated that she had quit her job and planned to return to her former home down in New Orleans. Advised Mrs. Oswald that before she took this step, that she contact Mr. Carro by phone the following morning to get his advice as to what she should do about getting a release from the Children's Court. She said that Mr. Carro had agreed that she could move to New Jersey and she could see no difference between moving to New Jersey or New Orleans. Explained to Mrs. Oswald that that there was a right way and a wrong way of doing things and that under existing circumstances, felt that she should notify Mr. Carro at once of her decision to move. WEG.
- 1/5/54 Received telephone call from Mrs. Oswald who stated that she had

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2223—Continued

OSWALD, LEE12335

1/5/54 contacted the Children's Court as suggested and that Mr. Carro Cont'd was on vacation and she talked with Mr. Dunn who was handling Mr. Carro's cases while he was away. She stated that Mr. Dunn advised her that the court had supervision over the boy and that she should bring the boy to the court on Monday morning 1/11 when Mr. Carro was expected to be back in his office. She stated that she would be glad to go down there alone, but hesitated to take Lee with her because she felt that if she did they would probably remand him or in some way not allow him to return home and inasmuch as her rent is paid up to the 15th of the month, she wanted to move some day before that time. Later on in the day talked with Mr. Dunn about this and he stated that the boy must appear before the Court before permission is granted for him to leave the city. WEG.

1/6/54 Called at the home of Mrs. Oswald. Explained again to her what Mr. Dunn had advised should be done but she was most sceptical about taking Lee before the Children's Court. Suggested to her that inasmuch as she felt this way, that she contact Mr. Carro upon his return as the boy was on parole to Mr. Carro and be guided by what suggestions he made. Suggested to Mrs. Oswald that we would be happy to hear from her if she wished to write when she got located and settled in New Orleans. WEG.

1/10/54 Learned from Mr. Carro, Probation Officer, of the Bronx Children's Court that he had written to Mrs. Oswald so that the boy could be brought in for a hearing and that the letter was returned to him marked "moved - left no address." This evidently means that Mrs. Oswald carried out her intentions which were told to the writer on 1/5. At that time she said that she would not report to Mr. Carro because he might take Lee away from here and all her plans would be up-set. Please close. WEG.

## COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2223-Continued

*Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft*

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New York 5

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Cable address: Solbellam

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1225 Eye Street, N.W.  
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May 13, 1964

*Conrad H. Wickersham  
H. Keith Howe  
Charles W. McConaughy  
John F. Murphy  
Joseph C. Lewis  
Richard J. Long  
W. L. White  
Richard J. Conwell  
H. James Mills  
Mary Allen Mack  
F. Franklin Van Dusen  
John A. Sullivan  
Richard J. Taylor  
Harold W. Grayson  
William V. Glavin  
William E. Harbo  
R. C. Hooper Brown  
R. L. Van Dyke Berg  
Edward W. Tamm  
Lester B. Nease  
George F. Reynolds  
James H. Kelly  
Marshall H. Manning  
(Junior)*

Honorable J. Lee Rankin  
General Counsel  
President's Commission on the  
Assassination of President Kennedy  
200 Maryland Ave. N.E.  
Washington, D. C. 20002

Dear Mr. Rankin:

Pursuant to your letter of May 12 and the subpoena addressed to the Community Service Society and its counsel we enclose my affidavit to which are attached clear photostatic copies of all materials relating to Lee Harvey Oswald in the possession or control of the Community Service Society or its counsel.

We trust this complies with your request and that the subpoena for our appearance on May 18 is accordingly withdrawn.

Very truly yours,

*Peter Megargee Brown*  
Peter Megargee Brown

Enclosures  
Via Air Mail

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2224