

FOR SOVIET BOSTERIP  
(Outside Office and Officers)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: January 26, 1961

SUBJECT: Lee Oswald

PARTICIPANTS: Mrs. Oswald  
PPT - Mr. Edward J. Hickey  
SCS - Mr. Derrnan F. Stanfield  
SOV - D. E. Boster

COPIES TO: PPT  
SCS  
H  
DNR - 5  
SOV - (5) (2cc's)  
Ambassy Moscow

[Redacted] 20-1122-4920  
LEE HARVEY 1-2661

Mrs. Oswald came in to discuss the situation with regard to her son, Lee Oswald, who had gone to the Soviet Union and attempted to renounce his citizenship in a visit to the Embassy on October 31, 1959. Mrs. Oswald said she had come to Washington to see what further could be done to help her son, indicating that she did not feel that the Department had done as much as it should in his case. She also said she thought there was some possibility that her son had in fact gone to the Soviet Union as a US secret agent, and if this were true she wished the appropriate authorities to know that she was destitute and should receive some compensation.

Mrs. Oswald was assured that there was no evidence to suggest that her son had gone to the Soviet Union as an "agent", and that she should dismiss any such idea. With respect to her son's citizenship status, Mr. Hickey explained that he had not yet taken the necessary steps in order legally to renounce his citizenship. At the same time, we did not know whether he had taken any action which would deprive him of his American citizenship under our laws. Mrs. Oswald conceded that there was a good possibility that her son was acting in full knowledge of what he was doing and preferred the Soviet way of life. If this were the case, she would respect his right to do so.

It was agreed that the Department would send a new instruction to the Embassy at Moscow asking that the Soviet Foreign Ministry be informed that Mrs. Oswald had not heard from her son in several months and was very anxious to have word from him.

Mrs. Oswald said that her address at the present time was Box 305, Boyd, Texas.

[Redacted]

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

Embassy MOSCOW

November 2, 1959

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

REF: Outrel 1304, October 31, 1959

ACTION	DEPT.
REC'D	OTHER
17	0

CITIZENSHIP: Lee Harvey OSWALD

Mr. Lee Harvey OSWALD, an American citizen, appeared at this Embassy October 31, 1959 and stated to Second Secretary Richard E. Snyder that he wishes to renounce his American citizenship and that he had applied to become a citizen of the Soviet Union. He presented to the interviewing officer his passport and the following signed, undated, handwritten statement, the original of which is retained by the Embassy (misspellings are as in original):

"I, Lee Harvey (cq) Oswald do hereby request that my present citizenship in the United States of America, be revoked.

"I have entered the Soviet Union for the express purpose of applying for citizenship in the Soviet Union, through the means of naturalization.

"My request for citizenship is now pending before the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

"I take these steps for political reasons. My request for the revoking of my American citizenship is made only after the longest and most serious considerations.

"I affirm that my allegiance is to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

s/ Lee H. Oswald

Oswald is the bearer of Passport No. 1733242, issued September 10, 1959 (retained at the Embassy). The passport shows that he was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on October 18, 1939, and gave his occupation as "Shipping export agent". Oswald gave his last address in the United States as that of his mother at 1936 Cullinwood Street, Fort Worth, Texas. A telegram subsequently received at the Embassy for him indicates that a brother, Robert L. Oswald, resides at 7313 Davenport, Fort Worth, Texas. He stated that he was discharged from the U. S. Marine Corps on September 11, 1959. Highest grade achieved was corporal. Oswald evidently applied for his passport to the Agency at San Francisco while still in service. He stated that he had contemplated the action which he took for about two years before his discharge. He departed from the United States through New Orleans with the intent of traveling to the Soviet Union through Northern Europe. He states that he first applied for a Soviet tourist visa in Moscow on October 11,

COPY TO THE FBI

NOV 12 1959

SY - LIAISON