



TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

September 10, 1964

OO-2-7403

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

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

Dear Mr. Rankin:

On Page 7603 of the Report of Proceedings held at Washington, D. C., on Thursday, June 18, 1964, I testified concerning the status of the Fiscal Year 1965 Budget of the Secret Service. You may be interested in knowing that the reduction of \$50,000 made by the House Appropriations Committee was not protected by the Secret Service when our appropriation request went to the Senate Committee. On August 1, 1964, our Appropriation Bill was passed (Public Law 88-392) in the amount of \$7,500,000.

Very truly yours,

James J. Rowley

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2765

Commission Exhibit 2765



INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE, INC.

460 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016 OREGON 9-0010
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Mr. J. Leo Rankin, General Counsel
President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy
200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Mr. Rankin:

I have your letter of April 24th requesting materials concerning Lee Harvey Oswald. You stated that you would like to have the originals for your permanent file.

We first heard of Oswald's existence from a phone call I had from a Mr. Stanfield (?) of the Special Consular Service of the State Department. My recollection as to the specifics of our conversation is quite hazy, but I believe he mentioned that Oswald's application for return to the United States had been cleared by the State Department and that the Red Cross in Texas was interested in the case. I believe I explained that we usually would not be concerned with returning American citizens and that, as a strongly anti-Communist organization, we would hardly be the appropriate agency for an American who went to Russia to live there. I assume that I suggested that the matter be submitted to us in writing.

A few days later we received a letter from Mrs. Harwell of the Wilberger County Chapter, Vernon, Texas, dated January 14, 1962, to which, to the best of my recollection were attached copies of a letter written by Consul Norbury, American Embassy, Moscow, to Lee Harvey Oswald, dated December 14, 1961, and of a letter addressed to the International Rescue Committee, dated January 13, 1961 (sic), and presumably written by Oswald. Mrs. Harwell's letter is not in our file. However, a copy certainly can be, or possibly was already, secured from her office. The enclosures described above are attached.

To a layman's eye it would appear that both copies were typed on the same typewriter. I do not know who added the handwritten words, "Mrs. Helen Harwell, Executive Secretary, American Red Cross," to the Norbury copy. What is most puzzling, although it did not then attract my attention, is that the letter from Oswald, dated January 13th, could have reached the United States by January 14th, and that it reached us via Texas. It is also puzzling that instead of the letter we were given a transcript thereof.

On January 23, 1962 we answered Mrs. Harwell. Our file copy of the reply is enclosed. The original undoubtedly can be found in the Red Cross file in Vernon.

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