



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  
CABLE ADDRESS: INTERRESQUE, NEW YORK

OVERSEAS OFFICES

Berlin Brussels Geneva Hamburg Hong Kong Indianapolis London Madrid Mexico City Nanking Nuremberg Paris Rome Stockholm Trieste Vienna

May 1, 1964

OFFICERS

LEO CHERNE  
DON ANGER BIRDA WAKE  
Honorary Chairman  
WILLIAM J. VANNEV HEUVEL  
President  
JOHN C. WHITEHEAD  
Treasurer  
MRS. KERMIT ROOSEVELT  
Secretary  
EDWIN J. WESLEY  
Chairman,  
Executive Committee

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Garret C. Anderson, Jr.  
Abram C. Barker  
Leo C. Berke  
Nicholas B. Biddle  
Joseph Bhatnager  
Richard E. Byrd, Jr.  
Elmer A. Carter  
Daniel G. Cary  
Oso C. Channing, Jr.  
Christopher Emmet  
Charles W. Engelhard  
H. William Fierston  
Samuel Goldwyn  
Mrs. Andrew Goodman  
Mrs. Shobha Sarin  
Louise Gore  
Herbert G. Gault  
Nanning Grissom  
Allen Grosser  
Morton I. Hamburg  
Mrs. Helen Cole Houghton  
A. E. John  
Francis L. Kellogg  
Mrs. Edward S. Landreth  
Hos. Clay Headley Kerr  
Joseph L. Mackin  
R. F. McLaughlin  
Henry M. Moore  
Roderic L. O'Connor  
Hos. Chabeano Pelt  
Mrs. Mary G. Harding  
Howard A. Rusk, M.D.  
Richard R. Seligman  
Henry B. Sargent  
David Shere  
General Carl Spaatz  
Neville D. Spivey  
Frank Tammann  
Mrs. Lawrence Taylor Chase  
Hans J. Van Chusen  
Blago, Bala Vozza  
Eric M. Warburg  
Eileen I. Wood, Jr.  
Thomas S. Williams  
Charles S. Zimmerman

PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
Charles Strassburg

- continued -

Contributions to the International Rescue Committee are tax deductible.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2766

On or about February 5, 1962 we did receive a handwritten letter directly from Oswald, dated January 26th, which makes no reference to a previous communication of his. The original was given by Mr. William J. vanden Heuvel to the FBI. I am enclosing a photostatic copy. Also attached is the envelope, which is the only original "document" remaining in our file. (Mr. vanden Heuvel is the President of our organization. He can be reached at the Attorney General's office in Washington.)

We did not reply to Oswald's letter because we would not enter into correspondence with people residing behind the Iron Curtain. To the best of my knowledge, no answer was ever received to our letter to Mrs. Helen Marwell. There was no further correspondence or action as far as we were concerned. We have made a thorough search of our files. The attached material is all we have been able to locate.

Sincerely yours,

  
Charles Sternberg  
Program Director

CS:ma

January 22, 1962

Mrs. Helen Marwell  
Executive Secretary  
American Red Cross  
Wilbarger County Chapter  
Box 1766  
Vernon, Texas

Re: Lee Harvey OSWALD

Dear Mrs. Marwell:

Since we had a call from the State Department on Mr. Oswald's case, your communication of January 14th did not come as a surprise. However, since we are a refugee agency which is usually not concerned with the problems of American citizens who need funds to return home, I'm afraid I will need some additional information before I can submit Mr. Oswald's request to our Finance Committee. Even then the outcome is dubious.

What we would need is:

1. Some background information on Mr. Oswald, why he is in the Soviet Union and what are the salient features of his case.
2. His wife's personal data. I presume she is a Soviet citizen.
3. The name and address of the person to whom Mr. Oswald is destined in Texas and especially why this person cannot assume the responsibility for the transportation expenses.

If Mr. Oswald's case has meritorious features, I also wonder whether some funds could not be obtained from local civic groups and why the State Department would not assume the responsibility for his repatriation, if not for the travel expenses of his wife.

We are a strongly anti-Communist organization and it does not happen very often that we have appeals for help from behind the Iron Curtain, let

- continued -

Mrs. Harwell

Page 2

TRUE COPY  
 THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
 OF THE  
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

alone from the Soviet Union. You will therefore appreciate, I'm sure, our concern for the specifics of this unusual case.

American Embassy,  
 Moscow, USSR,  
 December 14, 1961

Sincerely yours,

CS:ma  
 CC: J.H.  
 W.V.H.

Charles Sternberg  
 Director  
 Resettlement Department

Mr. Lee Harvey Oswald,  
 Ulitsa Kalinina,  
 House 4, Apartment 24,  
 Minsk, USSR.

Dear Mr. Oswald:

I refer to your letter of December 1, 1961, in which you raise a question regarding your application for an exit visa and your Soviet documentation.

It is the Embassy's view that, since you are not considered a Soviet citizen by the authorities in this country, you are entitled to receive a Soviet exit visa upon presentation of a valid foreign national passport. Regarding the latter, as we have indicated to you before, we can take up the matter of renewing your expired American passport upon your next personal appearance at the Embassy.

It further appears to us that your right to an exit visa will not be affected by your acceptance of an extension of your present Soviet documentation, which is after all, Prima facie evidence that you are not regarded here as a Soviet citizen.

If you intend to press your own individual application for a Soviet exit visa and are prepared to depart as soon as you receive it, I suggest that you come to this Embassy at your earliest opportunity to see about renewal of your expired American passport.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph B. Norbury  
 American Consul

*Mrs Helen Harwell  
 Executive Secretary  
 American Red Cross*

Jan. 13, 1961

International Rescue Committee  
251 Park Avenue South  
New York N.Y.

Gentlemen:

All outstanding documentation has already been resolved. We only need the money in the \$200.00 , for two tickets to New York and from New York to Texas. For further information contact the American Embassy, Moscow USSR.

At this writing my wife has been granted non-quota immigration status for entrance into the United States, and both of us have received Soviet exit visas to leave the Soviet Union.

We are in need of help and would appreciate any help that you can give us. We are expecting a baby the latter part of February.

Lee Harvey Oswald

Lee H. Oswald  
KALAMINA ST. 4, APT. 24  
MOSCOW, U.S.S.R.  
January 26, 1962

International Rescue Committee  
215 Park Ave - South  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sirs,

I'd like to request your aid in helping myself and my wife to get resettled in the U.S.A. I am a citizen of the United States, I have lived in the Soviet Union since October, 1959. My wife is a Soviet citizen, born in the U.S.S.R. in 1941. She has been classified under the immigration act of the United States and is eligible to enter the U.S.A. as my wife, for permanent residence.

However, in making the move, it incurs many expenses and inconveniences, this is where your fine organization can help.

Since July 1960 I and my wife have been working and waiting to get Soviet exit visas to leave the Soviet Union for the U.S.A. After all this time our visas have finally been granted, thank God, but our troubles are not finished, only if your organization helps.

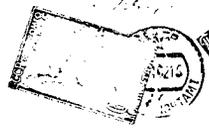
I would direct you to contact the American Embassy, Moscow U.S.S.R. for information. In regards to your check, a sum of \$500. is necessary. Our need is urgent, please render all assistance you can.

Sincerely,  
Lee H. Oswald

PAR AVION

MINSK N 24/3

U.S.A.  
International Russian Committee  
251 North Oak - South  
New York



Handwritten notes:  
1/24/52  
1/24/52  
1/24/52



8

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2766--Continued

100-14382

Commission Exhibit 2767

On April 20, 1950, Mrs. MARGARET C. OSWALD, who was then employed at Methodist Episcopal Home, 1111 Herring Avenue, Dallas, Texas, volunteered the following information:

Mrs. OSWALD stated that she has been very much upset and uneasy concerning her son, DR. HENRY OSWALD, since she learned during the Fall of 1950, with much to her surprise that he had gone to Moscow, Russia, where he had renounced his United States citizenship and had apparently sought Soviet citizenship. She stated that following his discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps in September, 1950, he visited her for a few days in Fort Worth and left town stating that he was going to New Orleans, Louisiana, to resume his employment with an export-import company at New Orleans. She stated that subject had engaged in export-import employment for a brief period of time prior to his enlistment in the U. S. Marine Corps. Mrs. OSWALD also stated that subject had mentioned something about his desire to travel and said something also about the fact that he might go to Cuba.

Mrs. OSWALD stated that shortly after subject arrived in New Orleans, she received the following letter postmarked at New Orleans, Louisiana, from subject:

"Dear mother:

"Well I have booked passage on a ship to Europe. I would of had to sooner or later, and I think its best that I do now. Just remember above all else that my values are very different from Roberts or yours.

"It is difficult to tell you how I feel. Just remember this is what I must do. I did not tell you about my plans because you could hardly be expected to understand. Lee."

Mrs. OSWALD stated that she was very much shocked and surprised later to learn that he had gone to Moscow, Russia. She stated that she had no idea as to how he arrived there but that she does know that he had saved up about \$1600 from his services in the U. S. Marine Corps. She stated that he did not previously discuss with her any intention to go to Moscow, Russia. She also stated that he had never shown any proclivities for the ideologies of communism. She stated that he had never expressed any sympathy for Russia or the communist system. She stated that subject was always a studious type of individual and that he read books that were considered "deep." Mrs. OSWALD stated that she would not have been surprised to have heard that subject had gone to, say, South America or Cuba, but that it had never entered her mind that he might go to Russia or that he might try to