

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505


18 SEP 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy

SUBJECT "Passport and Visa Office"

1. There is no official Soviet office known as the "Passport and Visa Office." However, there is a Visa and Registration Department (Otdel Viz i Registratsii or OVIR) which in 1959 was subordinate to the Chief Directorate of Militia of the All Union Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD).

2. A primary function of OVIR is the registration and control of foreigners in the USSR. OVIR has offices in most of the major cities of the USSR. Some of these offices serve an entire republic or oblast in addition to the city in which they are located. The location of the Moscow OVIR is Kolpachnyy Pereulok 9.



Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 3124

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

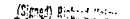
18 September 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
President's Commission on the
Assassination of President Kennedy

SUBJECT: Resettlement of U. S. Defectors in
the USSR

1. Information in our files indicates that U. S. citizens who defect to the USSR are usually resettled in Soviet cities other than Moscow. In the cases of eight individuals who defected in Moscow itself, only two were allowed to remain in the Soviet capital; the other six defectors were settled in various major cities in the European portion of the USSR. Those who remained in Moscow may have been permitted to do so because they had married Soviet citizens residing there.

2. In another six cases involving U. S. citizens who requested asylum of Soviet authorities outside the USSR, none was allowed to remain in Moscow. Two of these individuals went to the USSR via East Germany, two via Czechoslovakia and two by unknown routes.



Richard Helms
Deputy Director for Plans

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 3125