



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Cincinnati, Ohio
March 26, 1964

RE: TELEPHONE INTERVIEW WITH
MRS. MARGUERITE OSWALD,
RADIO STATION WHIO,
DAYTON, OHIO, MARCH 19, 1964

On March 19, 1964, a telephone interview was conducted by Mr. Phil Donahue, Radio Station WHIO, Dayton, Ohio, on the program called "Conversation Piece." The interview was with Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, and was by long-distance telephone with Mrs. Oswald at Little Rock, Arkansas. Also in the interview were listeners to WHIO who telephoned their questions to be answered by Mrs. Oswald.

The interviewer introduced his guest as Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of the accused presidential assassin, and stated she was participating in the program by way of long-distance telephone from Little Rock, Arkansas. He stated that she would answer questions put to her by the listeners of "Conversation Piece" at telephone number 253-8866.

She was asked by the interviewer for some of the reasons she was offering to support her assertion that her son did not kill President Kennedy.

Mrs. Oswald stated she knew Lee Harvey Oswald is innocent of this terrible tragedy. She stated she believes he was an agent of his government and that he was framed for the assassination of the President. She said he was supposed to be a Marxist and known defector. He was in Dallas at that particular time and was offered a job at the Book Depository three days prior to the motorcade. The route of the motorcade was changed to pass by the Book Depository. Lee did not get the job himself; he was offered the job. He was out of work at that time. She indicated everything points to the fact that this boy's past record of his defection to Russia and his views on Marxism would be a perfect setup for an assassin

of the President. She stated she believes that this is what happened and believes that her son was meant to be killed at the Book Depository, but this failed for some reason or other and he was able to get away. She thinks that officer Tippett was not killed by Lee Harvey Oswald. She thinks the assassins are still at large. She advanced the supposition that if Lee was framed and he was supposed to be killed in the building, then someone else would have to be killed in order for Lee to be arrested and then be killed himself. She believes that Jack Ruby only came into the case as a paid killer in order to shut Lee up.

When questioned by a listener as to why Lee did not have psychiatric care, she stated she did not know and was never informed that Lee should have psychiatric treatment. She explained his truancy in New York and that he was placed in a children's home by a judge. He was there about six to seven weeks. She denied having fled from New York because she did not want Lee to have psychiatric treatment, stating that she remained in New York for 11 months after this. She stated that she did not know Lee had psychiatric treatment, but would assume he had psychiatric treatment at the children's home as it was possible that the children there were given tests of some sort.

In answer to a question, she stated she believes it was normal for her son to defect to Russia because she believes he was an agent of the United States Government, and that he was sent to Russia as a defector and went there as a United States Government Agent.

With regard to a quotation by her in "U. S. News and World Report" in February, that President Johnson was in the White House through the actions of her son, she claimed that this was a misquotation.

She indicated she had received no information that her son was an agent of the United States from the United States Government.

She stated she believes President Kennedy was shot from the overpass directly in front of the motorcade, and not

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from the Book Depository.

She described her family as an average American family and a very patriotic family, in answer to a question indicating she had not discharged her duty as a good mother. She described her son as a brilliant boy, and stated the press is becoming a little more sympathetic toward her.

She stated that someone could have put Lee's rifle in the window of the Book Depository, and that a photograph taken at the time of the shooting shows the car had passed the window of the Book Depository, making it impossible for anyone to shoot at this car from that window.

She indicated that she believed her son was a Government agent because he was not under surveillance and that he was framed because of his Marxist views and because of his defection. She indicated that perhaps the person who framed him did not know he was a Government agent and he was found to be one only after being framed.

With regard to the shot at General Walker, she explained that if her son was an agent, he might become involved in a threat on General Walker's life, and, in his note to his wife, was telling his wife he might be arrested. If this did happen, she, as a Russian citizen, should get in touch with the Russian Embassy.

She stated she believes that more than one person was involved in the assassination. She admitted that her son could have been the one who had killed the President, but that she does not think so. She stated the car had bullet damage on the left hand side which was not facing the Book Depository, and this car was immediately sent to be renovated. She questioned why this evidence was taken away.

She refused to speak for the opinions of any other members of her family, stating that Lee's brothers do not have the information concerning him that she has.

She stated she doubted if she would believe the Warren Commission if they find Lee was the assassin. She indicated she thinks someone in the Government that wanted President Kennedy out of the way used her boy.