Workers of the world, unite!

[Translator's note: All the Russian documents translated herein have been stamped "Declassified."]

Communist Party of the Soviet Union. CENTRAL COMMITTEE

No. P251/14

To: Comrades Gromyko, Shelepin, Miteriev, Georgadze, Stepanov; the C C Central Committee of Byelorussia; Comrade Tarasov, Chairman of the Byelorussian Economic Council

Regarding the application of U.S. national Lee Harvey Oswald for Soviet citizenship

1. Agree with the proposal by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR and the Committee for State Security of the Council of Ministers of the USSR that U.S. national Lee Harvey Oswald, who has applied for Soviet citizenship, be granted the right of temporary sojourn in the Soviet Union for one year, and that the question of his permanent residency in the USSR and of his receiving Soviet citizenship be resolved upon the expiration of this period.
2. Have the Byelorussian Economic Council find employment for Oswald as an electrician; the Minsk City Council of Workers Deputies is to assign him a separate small apartment.

3. Instruct the Executive Committee of the Union of Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of the USSR to appropriate five thousand rubles to furnish the apartment for Oswald and to provide an allowance of 700 rubles monthly for one year.

SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

[Translator's note: The caption on the left hand side of the page reads: "To be returned within seven days to the First Sector of the General Section of the Central Committee of the CPSU."
TO THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE U.S.S.R.

OCT. 16, 1959

I, LEE HARVEY OSWALD, request that I be granted citizenship in the Soviet Union. My visa began on Oct. 15 and will expire on Oct. 21. I must be granted asylum before this date, while I wait for the citizenship decision.

At present I am a citizen of the United States of America.

I want citizenship because:

I am a Communist and a worker. I have lived in a decadent capitalist society where the workers are slaves.

I am twenty years old. I have completed three years in the United States Marine Corps. I served with the occupation forces in Japan. I have seen American military imperialism in all its forms.

I do not want to return to any country outside of the Soviet Union.

I am willing to give up my American citizenship and assume the responsibilities of a Soviet citizen.

I had saved my money which I earned as a private in the American military for two years, in order to come to Russia for the express purpose of seeking citizenship here. I do not have enough money left to live in definitly here, or to return to any other country. I have no desire to return to any other country. I ask that my request be given quick consideration.

Sincerely,

Lee Harvey Oswald
Secret

CC CPSU

U.S. national Lee Harvey Oswald, who is in the USSR as a tourist, has sent an application to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR for Soviet citizenship and for permanent residency in the USSR.

Lee Harvey Oswald (b. 1939), a student in his final year at an electrical trade school, came to the USSR on October 15 this year. Upon arriving in Moscow, he applied for Soviet citizenship. Because no decision had been reached on Oswald's request by the time his visa expired and he was to leave the USSR, Oswald tried to commit suicide by slitting a vein. After his recuperation he has kept insisting that he be given Soviet citizenship, and he refuses to leave the USSR. On October 31 he visited the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and said he renounced his American citizenship.

In view of the fact that individual foreigners who previously received Soviet citizenship (Sitarin [?], Afshar [?]) left our country after living here awhile, and considering that Oswald has not been sufficiently examined as yet, it would be advisable to grant him the right of temporary sojourn in the USSR for one year and to provide him employment and housing. In such case, the question of Oswald's permanent residency in the Soviet Union and his receiving Soviet citizenship could be resolved upon the expiration of that period.

The draft of the resolution is enclosed. Please review it.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR A. Gromyko
Chairman of the Committee for State Security A. Shelepin

November 27, 1959
No. 3471-sh
20-nk

ns
Please find enclosed a report on the sojourn of American tourist L.H. Oswald in Moscow.

Enc: 1 page

Deputy Chairman of the Administration of Intourist
[s] B. Boychenko

November 11, 1959
No. 124. 31299[?]s
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF LANGUAGE SERVICES
(Translation Division)

LS no.06920614
JS/PH
Russian

REPORT
on the Sojourn of American Tourist L.H. Oswald in Moscow

From October 21 through October 28, Oswald was treated at Botkinskiy Hospital after he had tried to commit suicide by slitting a vein in his arm.

Professor Tratakovskiy, his attending physician, said in an interview with an Intourist interpreter that Oswald was of sound mind but very strong-willed, and if his request for permission to remain in the USSR were turned down again he might repeat his suicide attempt.

In the hospital building where Oswald was staying, one other American was receiving treatment at the same time. This person was visited by a friend, a staff member of the U.S. Embassy. The latter took an interest in Oswald and asked whether he was registered at the U.S. Embassy and what had happened to him. Oswald, according to him, did not tell him anything.

On October 24, the Embassy called and asked when Oswald would be discharged from the hospital.

After his discharge Oswald was put up at the Metropol Hotel. On October 29 he was received at OVIR [section for visas and registration of foreign nationals], where he repeated his request for permission to stay in the USSR and receive Soviet citizenship. The head of OVIR permitted him to wait in Moscow until the final reply of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to his application.

In a conversation with the interpreter, Oswald stated that if the Supreme Soviet turned him down, he would not leave the USSR anyway and would keep applying to the Supreme Soviet until he achieved his goal. "I don't think the Supreme Soviet would be that cruel to me," he said.

On November 5, Oswald stated in a conversation with the interpreter that on October 31 he had visited the U.S. Embassy, renounced his American citizenship, and told them he would ask
the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to grant him Soviet citizenship. The Embassy staff member who had received him "did not express particular pleasure and replied that that was his business," and he communicated this at once to the journalists.

On November 1, 2, and 3 he was visited at the hotel by a number of journalists, including Stevens [?], but he refused to talk to them.

Acting Head of the EMO [?]
[s] P. Baranov

Senior Consultant [?]
[s] Belov

November 6, 1959
md-6

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43256

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To the Central Committee of the CPSU

U.S. national Lee Harvey Oswald, who came to the USSR as a tourist on October 15 of this year, has applied to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR for Soviet citizenship. According to his application, Lee Harvey Oswald (b. 1939), a native of the United States, served with the occupation forces in Japan after graduating from a three-year U.S. Navy school. [sic]. Oswald writes in the application: "I request that I be granted citizenship in the Soviet Union because I am a communist and a worker. I have lived in a decadent capitalist society where the workers are slaves. I have no desire to go to any other country."

The visa for Oswald's stay in the USSR expires on October 21 of this year.

The Committee for State Security of the Council of Ministers of the USSR deems it inadvisable to grant Oswald Soviet citizenship.

In our opinion, there are no grounds for approving Oswald's request for Soviet citizenship and for permitting him to remain as a permanent resident in the Soviet Union.

Comrade K. Ye. Voroshilov agrees with this opinion.

Please give [further] instructions.

[Partially illegible handwritten note: "Added with proposals. Georgadze agrees. 10-23-59]

10-21 [?]-59 [s] Georgadze