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February 3, 1964

CITY COUNCIL
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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Dallas, Texas

April 3, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

By letter dated March 20, 1964, the President's Commission requested that investigation be conducted concerning LEE HARVEY OSWALD's possible attendance at a day nursery in Dallas, Texas, during the School Year 1944 - 1945, in an effort to obtain school records and information from individuals who recalled LEE HARVEY OSWALD's personality, interests and abilities.

The President's Commission also advised that ROBERT OSWALD had testified before the President's Commission that LEE HARVEY OSWALD had attended elementary school in Benbrook, Texas, during 1946 and 1947. It was requested that in obtaining information concerning LEE HARVEY OSWALD that efforts be made to obtain information concerning his brother, ROBERT LEE OSWALD, JR., and his half brother, JOHN EDWARD PIC.

Mr. ROYDON SCHULTZ, 4726 Victor Street, Dallas, Texas, on March 30, 1964, advised he has resided at this address for approximately forty-five years, and recalls that in 1945 LEE HARVEY OSWALD resided with his mother, brother, and half brother at 4801 Victor Street for a period of one or two years. He stated LEE HARVEY OSWALD, to his recollection, was a young boy of five or six years of age, with whom he became quite familiar, as LEE HARVEY made it a practice to visit his residence on almost a daily basis to play in a sandbox in his back yard. He advised LEE HARVEY generally would come to his house between 6:00 or 7:00 AM in the morning and, on many occasions, would remain in his back yard all day playing in the sandbox and, on occasion, engage in play with other children in the neighborhood.

He advised he is quite certain LEE HARVEY OSWALD attended no school of any type while residing at 4801 Victor Street, as he saw him too frequently about the neighborhood.

INFORMATION SHEET

Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, was divorced from Edwin Ekdahl in 1948 in the 17th District Court of Tarrant County, Texas. Mr. Ekdahl won the divorce suit charging harsh and cruel treatment.

Respectfully submitted,

H. P. Hopkins
Lt. H. P. Hopkins, Investigator,
Inspection & Intelligence Unit,
Fort Worth Police Department.

HPH:bcv

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1873-O

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1874

678

RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

On March 30, 1964, Mr. JACK SCHULTZ, 4726 Victor Street, Dallas, Texas, advised he has resided at this address his entire life and recalls that when he was nine or ten years old LEE HARVEY OSWALD resided near his residence at 4801 Victor Street. He stated that, although he was three or four years older than LEE HARVEY, he recalls him quite well visiting his residence on almost a daily basis to play in his back yard.

He stated to the best of his recollection LEE HARVEY was prone to "run wild" in the neighborhood for a young boy of his age and that, to his knowledge, he attended no school of any type while residing in this neighborhood.

On March 30, 1964, Mrs. JOE FISCHER, Fischer's Day Nursery, 4951 Victor, Dallas, Texas, advised she was formerly employed by Miss Pat's Pre-School in Dallas, having become associated with this institution in 1945 under its owner, Mrs. PAT REED. She stated at the time the school opened in 1945 it was located at the Munger Baptist Church located at 3919 Munger, Dallas, Texas.

Mrs. FISCHER stated she remained at this school until 1948, during which time the school was moved to its present location at 4525 Junius Street, Dallas. She stated that in 1945 there were only two other nursery schools in the neighborhood in addition to Miss PAT's, those being the Minnie and Mickey Mouse Nursery School and the Mother Goose Kindergarten. She stated she is quite certain LEE HARVEY OSWALD did not attend Miss PAT's, as she has a facility for remembering children she has supervised in the past, and his name is in no way familiar to her.

On March 31, 1964, Mrs. LEITEA BRANDON, Owner, Miss Pat's Pre-School, 4525 Junius Street, Dallas, Texas, advised she purchased this school in December, 1949, from Mrs. PAT PLACKARD and has operated it at 4525 Junius Street since that time.

Mrs. BRANDON advised there are no records available prior to 1949 of children attending this pre-school, and she has no information that LEE HARVEY OSWALD ever attended this institution.

-2-

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1874-Continued

RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

On March 31, 1964, Mrs. PAT PLACKARD, Exchange Bank Building, Dallas, Texas, advised she operated a nursery school in Dallas, Texas, from 1945 until December, 1949, under the name of Miss Pat's Pre-School. She advised at the time she opened the school its location was at the Munger Baptist Church, 3919 Munger, Dallas, Texas, and shortly thereafter she moved the school to 4525 Junius, where it currently operates under the name of Miss Pat's Pre-School, although she no longer has any connection with it.

Mrs. PLACKARD advised she has no records available of children attending her pre-school in the past, but that she was very familiar with all of the children and their families who attended her pre-school, and she has no recollection whatsoever of LEE HARVEY OSWALD having attended her pre-school.

Mrs. PLACKARD advised, to her knowledge, the only other schools of this type of operation in this neighborhood in 1945 were the Minnie and Mickey Mouse School, operated by a Miss LOTTIE VANDERPOOL, and the Mother Goose Kindergarten, operated by a Mrs. R. H. CHOWNING.

On March 31, 1964, Mrs. PAULINE CRISWELL, 3926 Worth Street, Dallas, Texas, advised she is the owner of Minnie and Mickey Mouse Nursery School located at this address, having purchased it on January 1, 1964, from Miss LOTTIE VANDERPOOL.

Mrs. CRISWELL advised there are no records available of children formerly attending this school at the time it was operated by Mrs. VANDERPOOL, and she has no information in her possession that LEE HARVEY OSWALD ever attended this nursery school.

On March 31, 1964, Miss LOTTIE VANDERPOOL, 634 North Hill Drive, Dallas, Texas, advised she started the Minnie and Mickey Mouse Nursery School at 3926 Worth Street, Dallas, Texas, in 1942, and operated it herself until she sold it on January 1, 1964. She stated at the time she sold the school she had a number

-3-

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1874-Continued

RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

of incomplete records in her possession of former children who attended this school, but that at the time she sold the school she destroyed all records except those for the past three years.

She stated she can usually remember the names of all children down through the years who attended her nursery school, and is certain LEE HARVEY OSWALD never attended this nursery school.

On March 31, 1964, Mrs. R. H. CHOWNING, 5327 Junius Street, Dallas, Texas, advised she operated the Mother Goose Kindergarten in Dallas from 1945 to 1958, but that all records kept by her during this period have been destroyed. She stated she operated her school as a morning kindergarten, wherein children would attend for only three hours, and did not conduct her institution as a nursery school.

She stated she is quite certain LEE HARVEY OSWALD never attended this school, as his name is completely unfamiliar to her as a past student.

On March 31, 1964, Mr. ROBERT OSWALD, 1009 Sierra, Denton, Texas, brother of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, advised that he recently testified before the President's Commission on the assassination of President KENNEDY, and he does not recall giving any testimony to the effect that LEE HARVEY OSWALD attended a nursery school while their family resided in Dallas, Texas.

OSWALD pointed out, to the best of his recollection, that LEE HARVEY OSWALD did not attend any type of school until the family moved to Fort Worth, Texas, when LEE HARVEY commenced his education in the first grade at Benbrook, Texas, in early 1946.

On March 31, 1964, Mr. A. R. CARTWRIGHT, SR., Box 21006, Superintendent of Water Department at Benbrook, Texas, furnished the following information:

-4-

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1874—Continued

RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

He recalled that the OSWALD family lived in the house next door to where the Water Department is now located. CARTWRIGHT was not personally acquainted with this family, but recalled that Mrs. OSWALD lived there and had three sons. The youngest son was LEE HARVEY OSWALD and he believed LEE did attend the first grade at Benbrook School.

On March 31, 1964, Mr. R. W. WOOD, Superintendent of Benbrook Elementary School, Benbrook, Texas, 800 Mercedes Street, furnished the following information:

In 1945, 1946 and 1947, the Benbrook Elementary School was under the jurisdiction of Tarrant County. Mr. WOOD advised he did not have any records dating back to 1945-1947. WOOD was not with the school at that time and was not acquainted with LEE HARVEY OSWALD or the OSWALD family.

Mr. WOOD made inquiry among the teachers at the Benbrook Elementary School at this time and none of them was teaching in the school during 1945-1947. Mr. WOOD believed that the school records for that period of time would be in the possession of the County Superintendent of Schools in Fort Worth.

On March 31, 1964, Mr. O. H. STOWE, County Superintendent of Schools, Fort Worth, Texas, furnished the following information from his records:

They have a card reflecting that LEE OSWALD, Route 5, Box 567, Benbrook, Texas, entered the Benbrook Common School at Benbrook, Texas, on October 31, 1945. His age was shown as 6, birth shown as July 9, 1939. (It is noted that this is a different birth date for LEE HARVEY OSWALD.) Mr. STOWE advised that the family probably gave a different birth date, as September 1 of each year is the cut-off date for children to enter school. He had to be six years of age on September 1, 1945, and they probably showed his birth date as July 9, 1939, to qualify for this entrance.

-5-

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1874—Continued

RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

OSWALD entered in the low first grade; he took five subjects and made all "A's" and "B's" and received an "A" in citizenship. He was present 82 school days and was absent 15 school days. There is nothing on the card reflecting any derogatory information. Parent or guardian was listed as E. A. SKDAHL.

Mr. STONE checked his records further and determined that Mrs. ELLA RUSSELL was a teacher of the first grade at the Benbrook School at that time. He stated Mrs. RUSSELL is now deceased.

On March 31, 1964, Mr. OTIS R. CARLTON, 104 Mildred Drive, Benbrook, Texas, furnished the following information:

In 1945, 1946 and 1947, he was living on San Saba Street in Benbrook, Texas. At that time, this street was part of Route 5 in Benbrook. He recalled that Mrs. OSWALD and her three sons lived in the house which is now 100 San Saba Street in Benbrook. He believed they lived there for a period of six to eight months. Mrs. OSWALD was the owner of this property.

On one occasion while they were living there, Mrs. OSWALD contacted Mr. CARLTON and asked him to come up and inspect her house and give her an estimate as to what she might be able to sell this property for, as she was planning on leaving Benbrook. Mr. CARLTON told her he was a schoolteacher, not a real estate man, but she insisted on him helping her, and he agreed to go up and look at the property.

He did inspect the property one night and told her that he believed she could sell the house and lot for \$2,750.00. The next night Mrs. OSWALD came to the home of Mr. CARLTON and told him that she was going to accept his offer. Mr. CARLTON asked her what offer she was talking about. She said the offer to buy her house for \$2,750.00. CARLTON told her he had never

RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

made any such offer and that he merely told her that she might obtain this price when she was ready to sell it. She insisted that he had made her this offer and that she was going to hold him to it and that she wanted him to buy this house. CARLTON, at that time, was buying some rent property and he finally agreed to buy the house for \$2,750.00.

During the next few weeks, he was in and out of the OSWALD home on several occasions. One night he was in the living room of the OSWALD home talking to Mrs. OSWALD about the real estate transaction. LEE OSWALD, the youngest boy, came running through the kitchen door and was chasing JOHN PIC, his older brother. LEE OSWALD had a long butcher knife in his hand and he threw the knife at JOHN PIC but missed him, and it hit the wall. Mrs. OSWALD only made the remark that "they have these little scuffles all the time and don't worry about it."

CARLTON stated that the OSWALD family left Benbrook sometime in 1946 or possibly in 1947. He has not seen or had any dealings with them since then. He did recall that LEE OSWALD attended the first grade at Benbrook School because his daughter was teaching in the school at that time, but was teaching the fifth and sixth grades. His daughter never had any dealings with LEE OSWALD.

CARLTON stated that ROBERT OSWALD and JOHN PIC appeared to be boys of a little more even disposition than LEE OSWALD.

-7-

-6-

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1874—Continued

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1874—Continued