

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 7/17/64

O. V. CAMPBELL, Vice-President of the Texas School Book Depository, Dallas, advised that JOE MOLINA had been under his direct supervision when employed as Credit Manager of this company. CAMPBELL said that their business had boomed tremendously in the past year, that in the Fall of 1963, they were swamped with orders and it was obvious they were going to have to go into automation in order to operate efficiently.

In November 1963, the company hired one JOHN L. PRIMM, an independent efficiency expert, to make a survey of their operations. PRIMM conducted this survey on five separate dates from November 1963, to about February 15, 1964. CAMPBELL was not satisfied with PRIMM's work, principally because he spoke in generalities rather than specifics, and his services were discontinued.

At about the same time, the company also had experts in from the Frieden Company, 2905 Swiss Avenue, specifically, one ROBERT BEAZLEY of that firm, a representative from the Burroughs Company, and from Management Data Service, to conduct similar surveys and to make recommendations as to how to make the company's operations more efficient. The company finally decided to use the services and machines sold by the Frieden Company.

Throughout these surveys, it became apparent that the firm would be top-heavy at the level of JOE MOLINA's job, if they went to automation, and that either the job of OTIS WILLIAMS, in charge of the Bookkeeping Department, or of JOE MOLINA, the Credit Manager, would have to be abolished, and the accounting operation put under the supervision of one of these two men.

He said both MOLINA and WILLIAMS had been with the company about the same length of time. Both were completely capable and efficient. He felt that WILLIAMS perhaps had a little more over-all knowledge of the operations of the

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by Special Agent W. JAMES WOOD/ds Date dictated 7/15/64

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Accounting Department than did MOLINA. In addition, about once a year it was necessary for CAMPBELL to call MOLINA "on the carpet," for various reasons, principally, because MOLINA found it difficult, at times, to take orders and suggestions, and because of MOLINA's inclination to be a bit too independent in his job. For these reasons alone, CAMPBELL decided to retain WILLIAMS and let MOLINA go.

CAMPBELL pointed out that in none of the surveys was there any recommendation made as to what jobs should be abolished or who should be discharged, but that such studies made it obvious one of the two jobs held by WILLIAMS and MOLINA would have to be abolished, and the choice was made by CAMPBELL.

The company had planned to have the Accounting Department automated by May 1, 1964. Actually, automation did not take effect until July 1, 1964. However, because it was obvious that MOLINA's job would be abolished, the company felt it their duty to notify him as soon as possible so he could seek other work, and to make a generous settlement with him because of his sixteen years of service with them.

CAMPBELL said he heard reports over television and the radio, shortly following the assassination of President KENNEDY, that MOLINA might have a subversive background, but that he had received no substantiating information to prove this, and that such allegations were not a factor in the discharge of MOLINA.

MOLINA was given notice of termination, and was offered a contract to receive a salary for a period after his separation, and termination pay. Mr. CAMPBELL stated MOLINA consulted with his attorney before signing this contract.

CAMPBELL exhibited the contract signed by MOLINA, which stated his employment was being terminated as of the date of the contract, December 12, 1963, and the following severance pay would be given him:

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1. Full salary for December 1963.
2. Christmas present of \$150.
3. Severance pay in the amount equal to full monthly salary for January, February and March 1964.
4. Additional severance of one-half of his full monthly salary for April, May and June 1964.
5. If the company paid a bonus to its employees for their fiscal year ending April 30, 1964, the company would pay to MOLINA the amount of the bonus for his eight months service from May through December 1963.

The last paragraph of this contract reads as follows:

"The said JOE R. MOLINA approves the foregoing and agrees that payment of the amounts above specified shall operate to release and discharge all claims of every kind that the said JOE R. MOLINA has or may have against the Texas School Depository."

The company also wrote a letter for MOLINA dated December 30, 1963, "to whom it may concern," giving him an excellent recommendation as a good and faithful employee, and stating he was being let go because the company was going to install a system of automation for the Accounting Department, and many positions would either be consolidated or eliminated. The letter stated that since they were not too sure of the future possibility for him at that time, they felt the fair thing would be to advise MOLINA of the intended change so he could seek employment elsewhere.

CAMPBELL said that in January 1964, the employment manager of the Neuhooff Packing Company in Dallas called him and questioned him about MOLINA's past employment, saying

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there was an opening in the credit union of that company. He said he gave MOLINA an excellent recommendation. He said MOLINA had done some work for a credit union in connection with his church work, and should be excellent for the job. He later heard MOLINA went to work for the Neuhooff Company, but he did not know the date of such employment.

Mr. CAMPBELL said MOLINA had been an excellent employee throughout the period of his affiliation with the Texas School Book Depository, that there had never been any reason to question his loyalty or his affiliations throughout this period, and that although CAMPBELL found the allegations against MOLINA disturbing, he did not place much stock in them, and such allegations were not a factor in the discharging of MOLINA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date August 19, 1964

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O. V. CAMPBELL, Vice President, Texas School Book Depository, Dallas, was interviewed at his residence at 7120 Twin Creek Lane, Dallas. He was reinterviewed for the purpose of clarifying information he had previously given in view of information furnished by JCE R. MOLINA. He was advised that JCE R. MOLINA has claimed that about ten days after publicity concerning his interrogation by Police, he (MOLINA) was told that he could no longer sign outgoing letters at his (MOLINA'S) place of employment; and shortly thereafter, all letterheads which bore his name were taken from him; that, thereafter, he had contacted Mr. O. V. CAMPBELL who had told him that allegations made about his loyalty would have to be cleared up; that the company had received crank calls and several customers said they would not buy books from the company as long as it had a subversive working for it.

Mr. CAMPBELL stated the adverse publicity received by JCE R. MOLINA was not the reason for MOLINA'S termination from employment at the Texas School Book Depository. Mr. CAMPBELL advised that the officials of his company, prior to the date of the assassination of President KENNEDY, had already made up their minds to let MOLINA go because the department in which he was employed had become overworked due to automation. He stated the fact that MOLINA, immediately following the day of President KENNEDY'S assassination, received adverse publicity to the effect that he might have some subversive affiliation was not the reason why MOLINA'S employment by that firm was terminated. The officials believed it would be unjust to keep him on in only a Clerk position, automation having taken over much of MOLINA'S duties. Mr. CAMPBELL explained that all concerning at the present time at that firm is done by automation. He stated, however, that if the officials had not already made up their minds to let MOLINA go, they would have considered the

adverse publicity against MOLINA as a possible reason for letting him go, but before using that as such a reason, they would have tried to find out more concerning the allegations against MOLINA. He said they would have employed some investigative agency to help them determine if there was any foundation to those allegations before using same as a reason for terminating him.

Mr. CAMPBELL stated his firm acts as agents and distributors for about forty different book publishers and that his firm is constantly interested in being certain that none of the books would be of such nature they should not be utilized by school students. He stated the Texas Educational Agency, Austin, Texas, is constantly checking into school books to be certain there is no subversive aspect about any of the books used in public schools. He stated that State Agency is constantly pressured by various individuals in that regard in order to be certain that no books teaching communism or other subversive activities would fall into the hands of public school students.

Mr. CAMPBELL stated that immediately following President KENNEDY'S assassination and the adverse publicity received by JCE R. MOLINA, his firm, as a strictly precautionary measure, decided to have no more letters run out over MOLINA'S signature. He and other officials of his firm had heard allegations over radio and television concerning the possibility that MOLINA might have some subversive affiliation or background, but they had no information that would establish such allegations as being true. He stated the letterhead stationery of that firm did not carry MOLINA'S name, and the only forms that bore MOLINA'S name were "offset" letters which contained MOLINA'S name as signer. He explained that "offset" letters were form letters that had been prepared previously and numerous copies had been run off through a photographic process for later use by MOLINA. These form letters were used by the firm as collection letters, and MOLINA had been

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1970-Continued



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Dallas, Texas
February 20, 1964

DL 100-9947

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RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

sending them out to various customers merely filling in blanks on that letter as would be appropriate. Mr. CAMPBELL stated he had his secretaries, BERNIE REICHEY and CAROLYN ARNOID, gather up the unused copies of those "offset" letters that carried MOLINA'S name. He said there were two different kinds of those form letters, and there may have been three, all of which reflected JOE MOLINA'S name as the signer and identified MOLINA as Credit Manager. Mr. CAMPBELL stated SARAH STANTON is an employee at that firm, but she had not assisted in collecting those forms bearing MOLINA'S name.

Exhibit D-74 is a book entitled, "Book of Useful Advice" in the Russian language containing 865 pages, the first 18 pages of which are missing. This is a book on cooking and other useful information with green and blue binding in which book was found the letter written by LEE HARVEY OSWALD concerning his attempted shooting of General EDWIN A. WALKER at Dallas, Texas on April 10, 1963.

This book was obtained from Inspector TOM KELLEY, U. S. Secret Service, Dallas, Texas on December 3, 1963.

Mr. CAMPBELL stated those form letters were taken up as a precautionary measure solely toward not losing customers. He stated that within a few days after the day of President KENNEDY'S assassination, possibly during the first week thereafter, he discussed this matter very briefly with MOLINA telling him that at least for the present time until the adverse publicity concerning MOLINA had been cleared up, it was believed that no letters should be sent out over MOLINA'S signature. Mr. CAMPBELL said at that time, all his and other officials of his firm knew about the allegations concerning MOLINA was what they had heard on radio and television. Mr. CAMPBELL stated he did not tell MOLINA that he had received any crank telephone calls or that several customers had written in stating they would not buy books from the company as long as it had a subversive working for it. He stated he does not recall that the firm ever received any crank telephone calls of that nature and, as of that date, no letters had been received of that nature. He stated he recalls that only about three complimentary letters had been received by the firm subsequent to the assassination and none of those had been received as of the time CAMPBELL engaged in that conversation with MOLINA. He said one such complimentary letter was received later in December, 1963, one about the first of January, 1964, and one about February, 1964.

The results of investigation pertaining to this exhibit are reflected on page 710 of the report of SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING dated December 23, 1963 at Dallas, Texas; on page 51 of the report of SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING dated January 22, 1964 at Dallas, Texas; and on page 59 of the report of SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING dated February 11, 1964 at Dallas, Texas.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 1971

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