

State / National

Accusation: Oswald met with KGB agent before assassination

United Press International
DALLAS — Two months before the shooting of President John F. Kennedy, Lee Harvey Oswald met in Mexico City with the kingpin of Russian espionage and assassination in the Western Hemisphere, said the FBI agent responsible for monitoring Oswald's activities.

Breaking a 17-year silence, retired FBI agent James P. Hosty Jr. also said documents about the Mexico City meeting were secretly removed by the FBI from Oswald's internal security file in Dallas hours after Kennedy was shot.

In a copyright interview with the Dallas Morning News, Hosty said he is now talking about Oswald "because one of these days they are going to have to face up and tell the public the truth."

Hosty said Oswald met with Valeriy V. Kostikov in the Soviet embassy in Mexico City and he was prepared to drop the bombshell if the House Assassinations Committee had permitted him to testify in 1978.

Hosty said at least four documents about the Mexico City trip by Oswald were removed from the Dallas file during the afternoon of the assassination. He said they were taken without his knowledge while he was ordered to go to the Dallas

police station where Oswald was being interrogated.

Hosty said he did not learn of Kostikov's assassination and espionage role until 1966. But he said pre-assassination information from the FBI in Washington and other government sources was enough to put him on alert.

Hosty said he had to eavesdrop on another federal agency in Dallas to get his first word of Oswald's visit to the Soviet embassy. He said he sent an urgent message to FBI headquarters one month before the assassination reporting the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization service had received a communication classified "SECRET" from the CIA in Mexico City indicating Oswald was at the Soviet Embassy.

"The big thing was they didn't tell me anything," Hosty said. "You can very well see how the whole thing could take on a different complexion if I knew who he was talking to. FBI headquarters had it and they sat on it."

Hosty said he was never supposed to have known about the documents and his FBI superior became enraged when he indicated he was aware of the Mexico City data on Oswald.

During a 1964 meeting with

Samuel A. Stern, lawyer to the Warren Commission, and Alan H. Belmont, in charge of the assassination investigation, Hosty said he mentioned the documents about the alleged assassin's contacts with the Soviet embassy in Mexico City. Hosty said he specifically mentioned a document that noted Oswald met with Kostikov.

Hosty said Belmont muttered under his breath: "Damn it. I told them not to let you see that."

"That's when I got suspicious," Hosty said. "They (the FBI) were going to keep me completely out of any knowledge about Mexico City before my Warren Commission testimony. They were upset that I even knew about it. They were trying to freeze me out completely."

G. Robert Blakely, chief counsel for the now defunct House Assassinations Committee, contacted by the Morning News, said Hosty had "no new information to offer this committee."

But Blakely said he could not "deny or confirm" Hosty's story "because I am simply not free to do so." He refused to comment on why his committee's report all but ignored Kostikov, stating he "cannot acknowledge to you anything about Mexico City."

Kostikov is mentioned only once in the 307 pages about the Kennedy assassination in the House panel's final report last year. Nothing in the report and references notes Kostikov was a KGB agent, the newspaper reported, but the committee published a 300-page report entitled "Lee Harvey Oswald, the CIA and

Mexico City." It is classified, however.

Attorney David Slawson explored foreign conspiracy possibilities for the Warren Commission. He told the House Assassinations Committee Kostikov was "certainly a very high-ranking official in the KGB and perhaps the highest ranking such official in the Western Hemisphere ... He was high enough up so that he was the central director, so to speak, for the KGB activities in the Caribbean areas, which as I say was a very important area because it was a kind of spy clearinghouse and presumably an assassination clearinghouse, too."

Slawson said: "The principal objectives of my work in Mexico was to find out what had gone on between Oswald and this very important KGB representative. Obviously it was a suspicious circumstance."

The House Assassinations Committee merely said the CIA was "advised that Oswald had spoken with an individual possibly identified as Soviet consul Kostikov on Sept. 28, 1973."

Hosty was the FBI agent most severely reprimanded by then-FBI director J. Edgar Hoover, who secretly took action against 17 agents after the assassination. Hosty said the FBI recently tacitly admitted he was unfairly treated by returning money he lost when he was suspended for 30 days.

"Rather than come out and admit it, they just gave me my money back," said Hosty, who now lives in Kansas City. He is embittered but still loyal to the organization he served for 27 years.

What's Up

TUESDAY

POULTRY SCIENCE CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 100 Kleberg.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE: Catholic Christmas in Aggeland will begin at 8 p.m. at St. Mary's Church lawn. A party will follow the service.

TAMU HANG GLIDING CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 404 Rudder.

MARINE MANAGEMENT LECTURE: Ned A. Osteno of the National Sea Grant Office in Washington will speak on "Managing Applied Research in a Mission Agency" at 4 p.m. in 204C Sterling C. Evans Library.

SAN ANTONIO HOMETOWN CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 107 Heldenfels.

"BROTHER SUN, SISTER MOON; THE LIFE OF SAINT FRANCIS": The movie will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater. Admission is free.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 102 Zachry.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Will meet for prayer service at 10 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.

MSC BLACK AWARENESS COMMITTEE: Will meet at 8 p.m. in 137A MSC.

BIOCHEMISTRY SOCIETY: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Mr. Gatti's.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE: Lambda Sigma will be selling Christmas trees from 1-5 p.m. at the Commons and from 4-7 p.m. at Sbis.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 103 Zachry. Aggeland pictures will be taken.

MICROBIOLOGY SOCIETY: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 102 Agronomy.

LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT COUNCIL: Voting for Teacher Excellence will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Harrington and Academic Building.

STUDENT Y: Will sponsor a gift wrap service free to members from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in 216 MSC. Non-members may use the service for a small fee.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Newman Club will go Christmas caroling at 8 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.

TAMU INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE: Will meet at 7:45 p.m. in 212 MSC.

STUDENT Y: The Concessions committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. in 607 Rudder.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE: Lambda Sigma will be selling Christmas trees from 1-5 p.m. at the Commons and from 4-7 p.m. at Sbis.

CYPRES VALLEY HOMETOWN CLUB: Aggeland pictures will be taken at 8:15 p.m. in Zachry lobby.

STUDENT Y: Will offer a gift wrap service free to members from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in 216 MSC. Non-members may use the service for a fee.

THURSDAY

CHRISTMAS SERVICE: The Student Y will have the service at 7 p.m. at the All Faiths Chapel.

BETA BETA BETA: Aggeland pictures will be taken at 7 p.m. in the MSC Main Lounge.

QUEST FOR TRUTH: Dr. Dale Knobel will speak at 7 p.m. in 141 MSC.

CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION: Will have an Advent Mass at 12:30 p.m. at the All Faiths Chapel and a night prayer service at 10 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.

ALVIN HOMETOWN CLUB: Aggeland pictures will be taken at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC Lounge. Meeting and party will follow.

"PLAN NINE FROM OUTER SPACE": The feature will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the MSC Basement Coffeehouse. Admission is free.

"INVASION OF THE STAR CREATURES": The feature will be shown at 9:45 p.m. in the MSC Basement Coffeehouse. Admission is free.

TYLER HOMETOWN CLUB: Aggeland pictures will be taken at 7:30 p.m. in the MSC Main Lounge.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: Will meet at 8 p.m. in 601 Rudder.

FREE CONCERT: MSC OPAS and Town Hall will sponsor Mary K. Miller and the Singing Cadets at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

MATH HELP SESSION: The Math Club will sponsor the session for all students in Math 130, 151, 152, 230, 253, 308 at 7 p.m. in 205 Academic Sciences.

ALPHA PI MU: Will have their initiation banquet at 6 p.m. in the MSC.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE: Lambda Sigma will be selling Christmas trees from 1-5 p.m. at the Commons and from 4-7 p.m. at Sbis.

STUDENT Y: Will sponsor a gift wrap service free to members from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in 216 MSC. Non-members may use the service for a small fee.

WEDNESDAY

ROOMMATE SESSION: The Off-Campus Center will sponsor the session at 3 p.m. in 404 Rudder.

RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCE ASSOCIATION: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 110 Military Sciences.

LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT COUNCIL: Voting for Teacher Excellence will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Harrington and Academic Building.

SAN ANGELO-WEST TEXAS HOMETOWN CLUB: Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Zachry lobby.

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