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Subject: LHO HSCA intelligence stuff...

Oswald's military service 219 (17) Oswald's military intelligence file..... 221 (10)

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-----Page 221221 consideration of his or her

case."(195) A review of Oswald's case indi- cates that his initial hardship discharge application was accompanied by all of the requisite documentation. Oswald had met the, preliminary requirements of having made a voluntary contribution to the hardship dependent (his mother) and of applying for a dependent's quarters al- lotment 32 to alleviate the hardship. (196) Even though all of the sup- porting affidavits for the quarters allotment had not been submitted at the time that the hardship discharge application was filed, the endorse- ments on the application indicated that the reviewing officers were aware that both the requisite voluntary contribution and the applica- tion for a quarters allotment had been made. (197) Moreover, that ap- plication was accompanied by two letters and two affidavits attesting to Marguerite Oswald's inability to support herself. (198) Documents provided to the committee by the American Red Cross indicate that Oswald had sought its assistance and therefore was probably well advised on the requisite documentation to support his claim.(199) Indeed, Red Cross officials interviewed Marguerite Os- wald and concluded that she "could not be considered employable from an emotional standpoint."(200) The Fort Worth Red Cross office indicated a quarters allotment was necessary for Marguerite Oswald, rather than a hardship discharge for Lee, and assisted her in the prep- aration of the necessary application documents.(201) Nevertheless, Oswald informed the Red Cross office in El Toro, Calif., where he was then stationed, that he desired to apply for a hardship discharge. (202) The unusual aspect of Oswald's discharge application was that, technically, his requisite application for a quarters allowance for his mother should have been disallowed because Marguerite's dependency affidavit stated that Oswald had not contributed any money to her during the preceding year. (203) Even so, the first officer to review Oswald's application noted in his endorsement, dated August 19, 1959, that "[a] genuine hardship exists in this case, and in my opinion ap- proval of the 'Q' [quarters] allotment will not sufficiently alleviate this situation."(204) This quotation suggests the possibility that ap- plications for quarters allotments and hardship discharges are con- sidered independently of one another. In addition, six other officers endorsed Oswald's application.(205) The committee was able to con- tact three of the seven endorsing officers (one had died); two had no memory of the event,(206) and one could not recall any details. (207) The committee considered their absence of memory to be indicative of the Oswald, case having been handled in a routine manner. Based on this evidence, the committee was not able to discern any unusual

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