

# ALLEN-SCOTT REPORT

*Inside Washington*

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## Oswald Case Figure Promoted

WASHINGTON — Boris H. Klosson, the State Department official who played a key role in clearing the way for Lee Harvey Oswald's return from Russia, is slated for a major promotion.

A career foreign service officer, Klosson is scheduled to replace Frank C. Siscoe as the department's director of Soviet and Eastern European exchange staffs.

While no official announcement of his new assignment has been made, Klosson has checked in at the department from Kingston, Jamaica, where he served as deputy chief of the U.S. mission. On the Foreign Service roster, he lists Siscoe's room number and telephone as his forwarding address.

In this strategic position, Klosson will be in charge of State Department authorities arranging the exchange and screening of several thousand U. S., Russian and Soviet bloc scientists, educators, artists, actors and students.

The security implications of the exchange programs Klosson will be handling are clearly indicated in testimony given a House appropriations subcommittee by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

### MANY SPIES

He warned that spies are included in virtually every Soviet group that visits the U.S.—diplomats, scientists, businessmen, students and cultural exchange missions—stating:

"The numerous Soviet scientific and cultural delegations which arrive in the U.S. to visit our universities and scientific establishments invariably have among their members scientists who have been given special assignments by the KGB (Soviet

secret police, intelligence and assassination organization)."

### BACK IN MOSCOW

According to the records of the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President Kennedy, Klosson was U. S. counselor for political affairs in Moscow in 1961 when Oswald sought visas for himself and his new wife to return to the U.S. Oswald had gone to Russia in 1959.

FBI officials credit Klosson with clearing the way for Oswald's return by sending the State Department a three-page report, dated July 11, 1961, indicating the defector had undergone a major change of heart and was not dangerous.

Titled "Citizenship and Passports — Lee Harvey Oswald," Foreign Service Dispatch No. 29 was signed by Klosson and stated, in part, as follows:

"... Much of the arrogance and bravado which characterized him on his first visit to the embassy appears to have left him."

Little-noticed testimony before the Warren Commission pinpointed a number of errors in the dispatch dealing with information about Marina, the Russian girl Oswald married on April 30, 1961.

Klosson's vital communication reported Oswald's bride as being Marina Nikelaevna Pusakova instead of Marina Nike-laevna Prusakova, and listed her occupation as "dental technician" instead of "assistant pharmacist."

### LOOKING HIM OVER

Two congressional committees are quietly looking into Klosson's new assignment and his role in paving the way for Oswald's return to the U.S. A House appropriations subcommittee in charge of funds for U.S.-Soviet exchange pro-

grams already has questioned Abba Schwartz, head of the Bureau of Security & Consular Affairs, about Klosson's dispatch.

Rep. John Slack Jr. (D-W.Va.), member of the subcommittee, is seeking additional information about Klosson from both the State and Justice Departments.

The House judiciary subcommittee on immigration, headed by Rep. Michael Feighan, D-O., also is seeking further details about Klosson's dispatch, and why he is being given the important new assignment in the light of his bad judgment of Oswald.

Klosson's proposed appointment will be reviewed by Feighan's subcommittee when it takes another look at the East-West exchange program later this month, after reporting out a revised version of President Johnson's immigration proposal.

Klosson, 46, was born in Buffalo, N.Y., and has been in the State Department since 1945. He joined the department after World War II.

### WORKS UP

After assignment to the Division of Research on U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe, Klosson worked his way up to chief of the Research (Intelligence) Section for U.S.S.R. On July 26, 1959, he became first secretary of the U.S. embassy in Moscow and later counselor for political affairs—a diplomatic post sometimes filled by the CIA.

Klosson, fluent in Russian, received a B.S. degree from Hamilton College in 1940 and M. A. degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 1941. He studied a year (1938-9) at the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales Geneva, Switzerland. Before going into the military service, Klosson was an analyst for a U.S. aircraft company.

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NOTE: The boxed portion did not appear in the 7 June issue of the NORTHERN VIRGINIA SUN.