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Handling Indicator: JUN 18 9 54 AM '67 A-43

TO : Department of State ^{OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL} **NOTE:** No record of this airgram being received in the Department.
INFO : Embassy MEXICO for CCA Rec'd by pouch from Mexico 6/6/67
Embassy MEXICO for POL

FROM : Amconsul TAMPICO DATE: March 16, 1967

SUBJECT : Tampico Reporter Knew Lee Harvey Oswald

REF : Tampico 59, March 15, 1967

1. During the course of recent evening of buying drinks for a couple of Tampico newsmen, one of them mentioned to me he had recognized the photograph of Lee Harvey Oswald when it appeared following the assassination of President Kennedy. He said he commented on this to his editor at the time. The latter advised him to keep the matter to himself. Later during the evening he requested that I not reveal to anyone what he had told me, claiming to fear for his job if anything came to light at this point.

2. When I approached him subsequently (during daylight hours) for permission to inform the Department of what he had "confessed" to me, his reply was a flat no. He insisted his knowledge of Oswald had been slight. He claimed simply to have met Oswald at the university in Mexico City and to have been aware he wished to travel to Cuba, as well as that the Cubans were not prepared to grant him a visa. He said his contacts with Oswald had been fleeting and of no consequence, and he repeated his request I inform no one. He stated again he would lose his job if the matter came to light.

3. When I pressed him further, assuring him if I reported the incident, it would be treated in strictest confidence, he finally agreed to my doing so. I believe he is telling me the truth about having met Oswald, as well as that his fear is genuine he will lose his job if the incident receives publicity. I also doubt he can be expected to add much, if anything, to the facts already developed.

GROUP 3 RUYLE
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FORM 10-64 DS-323

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129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

27 JUN 1967

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Contents and Classification Approved by: RAO

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