

The first thing it does, what the UPI immediately begins to do immediately, is to give the version that it wanted, to try to present a case of murder caused by emotion, a case of sentimentalism, patriotism.

The UPI does a poor service to the man who was the President of its country by presenting this ganster, this gambler, this man of vice, this base subject as a great admirer of Kennedy, as such an extraordinary admirer that he was ready to face the electric chair in order to avenge his death; an individual who only exploited vice, gambling, and immorality all his life.

Why come now with those incredible attacks of morality from a depraved and degenerate individual? Why come now with those altruistic feelings? The UPI tried to give that impression in its first cable. They went and questioned his sister and she said that he could not sleep since the assassination of the President. They interrogated the family and elaborated the theory, that is, they interrogated the sister of this Mr. Ruby in order to elaborate the entire theory that it was because of emotional and sentimental reasons. UPI did not hesitate in attributing such a admirer to the murdered President of the United States. How unscrupulous! how dishonest! what a scandal! The same emphasis they used to present the other as an admirer of Castro, they immediately use to present this one as an admirer of Kennedy.

That is how imperialism works. That is how reaction works. That is how they make up their campaigns and their lies but everything appears to indicate that this shot has backfired (applause). There are other reports. The doctors that attended the assassinated President now report that they cannot say for sure that there were one or two bullets which ended his life, and that they cannot establish which are the entry and exit wounds from the bullet or bullets. There is also what Connally said in an interview he granted the newsmen from his bed in the hospital. Among other things he said "what was demonstrated in Dallas was the hate that exists in our society. The same hate that placed a bomb in Birmingham killing five children." That was said by the other wounded man who was with Kennedy.

It is going to be very difficult to continue to dress this doll. It is going to be very difficult to continue to maintain what they have been maintaining. We even think that it is unlikely that there will not be enough reaction in the United States so that there will be no investigation. It is very difficult to conceive that there are not enough North Americans, regardless of their political position or their ideology, who with an elemental sense of decency, shame, and prestige will demand that events be made clear, that all of these strange circumstances be explained.

It will be very difficult, and only at an extraordinary loss of prestige for the United States can those guilty of the assassination be concealed, nor can the true reasons, the true purposes, and the guilty intellectual and organizing authors of the crime remain in secret and in mystery. But they themselves, the ones who forged these plans against peace, against Cuba, against the Soviet Union, against humanity, against the progressive sectors, including the liberal ones of the United States, the ones who were guilty, are very unlikely to remain in secret and mystery until the end.

That is why we should await calmly but not confidently--and not confidently--so you can see what dangers threaten humanity, what dangers imperil the peoples, what a lack of scruples, how much evil exists, and how much cynicism is embodied in the imperialist society, among the most reactionary elements of that society. How many dangers, how many sinister plans, that is why I say wait calmly but not confidently because it is one more example, one more lesson.

Meanwhile, let us see how those who organized that maneuver will stew in their own juice, because even the Olympic champions of marksmanship are giving their opinions throughout the world. In any event, our fatherland was threatened once more. We saw how a finger was pointed at us, how weapons of aggression were pointed at us. We saw how they tried to dump a downpour of infamy on Cuba and its revolution. It has been placed in evidence. We have seen the behavior of individual people once more. Our revolution emerges with reason on its side and with a higher sense of morality from this test and from all other tests to which it is submitted, because before the eyes of the world it is clear, and it will be clearer each time, how the U.S. reactionaries wanted to make our country and the world the victims of their criminal designs, even at the price of the assassination of their own president in that country.

This episode more and more resembles an FBI novel, a gangster episode, rather than a political incident. All the circumstances, the scandalous manner with which the two assassinations were carried out, reminds us of the gangster films we saw so many times filmed precisely in Hollywood. Not lacking in the minutest detail, the one in charge of liquidating or lynching the accused was no less than a gambler from Chicago. How will they be able to explain those things to the world? How will those who have proceeded with such lack of respect for world opinion, who have shown such lack of human sensibility, be able to defend that shameful thing? With this I conclude the reference we have been compelled to make to clarify some aspects in connection with these events.

SOME ASPECTS IN CONNECTION WITH THESE EVENTS.

FBI

Date: 5/15/64

- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Casper
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Evans
- Mr. Gale
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555)

FROM: SAC, WFO (105-37111) (P)

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R - CUBA
(OO:DL)

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR
ADD. DISSEMINATION.

Le Dr. Portell-Vila
0/1/ks
comp

ReButel call to WFO, 5/13/64.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies and for Dallas, Miami and New Orleans one copy of a LHM dated and captioned as above containing interview results of Dr. HERMINIO PORTELL-VILA as requested by retel call.

He was interviewed on both occasions by SAs JAMES F. MORRISSEY and GENE L. BURGE at WFO.

PORTELL-VILA also furnished the following info; said he was only furnishing this to the Bureau for its own info; explained that while he had the greatest respect for the Bureau, he did not feel the same about the Presidential Commission from the standpoint of the security of info pertaining to source of his info.

He said that he received a communication in late 1961 from a person in Cuba whom he described only as a notary whom he knew, and who had handled some of his personal and family affairs. This person was part of an underground movement in Cuba which was attempting to pass on info of value against CASTRO through various outlets to people whom they believed sympathetic

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 5)
- 1 - Dallas (100-10461) (Enc. 1) (RM)
- 1 - Miami (105-8342) (Info) (Enc. 1) (RM)
- 1 - New Orleans (100-16601) (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
- 1 - WFO

JFH:jmm C. C. Wick
(7)

12-645
2 CC - Pres. Comm.
5/26/64 Enc. letter

REC-13

AIRTEL

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

JUN 9 1964

SOVIET *Ret*

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to the liberation of Cuba from CASTRO. He felt this movement was composed of professional people for the most part. He said he was supplied info which was confined to those matters handled exclusively within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Havana; that for this reason the source in his opinion is not the Notary, but is a person who is inside the Ministry, close to ROA, whose position allows him or her access to confidential matters. He said he did not know whether this person in the Ministry (if it is such a person) is male or female; suspects it is female. Since the info has fallen generally in the category of the Ministry's functions, he felt that the person had very little dealings with the CASTRO brothers.

He estimated that he receives items of interest to him concerning activities in Cuba in the foreign affairs field on the average of once every two months; has recently received such an item. Interpretation of the messages lies in the use of 15 or 20 key words which were prearranged with him in initial contacts. He is not a member of this movement, just a person in sympathy with anti-CASTRO activities. The messages reach him through communication outlets in Mexico or Spain. These he would not divulge. He believes the messages started in early January, 1962.

PORTELL-VILA thought that the source probably knew him; may have been a former student; thought PORTELL-VILA with his writing connections would be a good medium through which to pass such info.

He said the greater percentages of the reports are good.

Concerning the reliability of the source, he said that he contacted a person whom he knew in Cuba and who was referred to PORTELL-VILA as a person who could be contacted concerning the reliability of the source. This person has the family name of GUERRA, is about PORTELL-VILA's age; a retired diplomat for about five years on pension; at one time accredited to the Holy See from Cuba; and is familiar with some activities at the Ministry. PORTELL-VILA said that before he left Cuba he had a working agreement with GUERRA that they would try to keep in touch to follow activities in Cuba through GUERRA. When he inquired of GUERRA about the reliability of this unknown source, mainly asking if it was

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FILE NO. 105-82555

SERIAL NO. 3836

PAGE NO. 3

NO. OF PAGES 1

SECTION NO.

159

CIA

REFERRAL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C., 20535

May 15, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - R - CUBA

Re: Dr. Herminio Portell-Vila

It will be recalled that Dr. Herminio Portell-Vila, 4740 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., was interviewed on February 17, 1964, concerning one of his articles which appeared in the December 22, 1963, issue of the Spanish language weekly magazine "Bohemia Libre" published in New York City. The article was entitled "President Kennedy's Strange Assassination." Portell-Vila explained at that time that the material for the above article was obtained from public source material such as American newspapers and magazines, and foreign language newspapers and publications.

As will be recalled, Portell-Vila was a former Professor of History at the University of Havana who came to the United States in 1960 as a political refugee from the Castro Regime.

On May 13, 1964, Dr. Portell-Vila advised that he had received a message from an unknown source within Cuba which indicated in part that the files pertaining to Lee Harvey Oswald's relations in Moscow, Russia, with two Cuban Ambassadors there, were turned over to the Castro brothers on November 24, 1963, just two days after the assassination. The message was dated November 24, 1963, and he received same before the twelfth of December, 1963.

Around the time of its receipt, he gave the original of this part to Mrs. Mariada Arensberg, Secretary of the Cuban Freedom Committee, 1737 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. He believed she passed it on to an unknown Government agency, adding that he believed she had contacts in the State Department.

Portell-Vila said that he did not have a copy of this part of the message but reconstructed it from memory as follows:

3836

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

EXPEDIENTE RELACION OSVALDO CON CONCHESO EN
ARCHIVO MARIN HERRERA ENTREGADO HOY HERMANOS SIAMESES.

He interpreted this as follows:

File of relations of Oswald with Concheso (Cuban Embassy in Moscow) from files of Marin Herrera (Ministry of Foreign Relations, Havana), handed today to the Castro brothers.

He pointed out that there may have also been a preposition or two contained in it, but that the above was its contents as far as he could remember. It was pointed out to him that there did not appear to be any mention of the Cuban Ambassadors to Russia as his initial information would indicate. He then said that the names of the two ambassadors were included after "Concheso" in the message. One ambassador was designated by the word Oliva, as he recalled. He could not recall how the name of the other ambassador was designated.

Dr. Portell-Vila then said that his interpretation of the message is based on the prearranged meaning of certain words in the message. According to him, "MARIN HERRERA" was a reference to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Havana, because the building in which the ministry is located was built some 45 or 50 years ago by Mr. Marin Herrera. It had other owners later on until Cuba bought it. "CONCHESO" is a reference to the Cuban Embassy in Moscow because the first Cuban Ambassador to Moscow, in 1942, was a Mr. Concheso. "OSVALDO" is Oswald in Spanish, a Christian name. "HERMANOS SIAMESES" is a reference to the Castro brothers, Fidel and Raul. He said that the two ambassadors to whom reference is made are Carlos Olivares and Faure Chomon, who were the Cuban Ambassadors in Moscow during the period that Oswald was in Russia.

The above message with his interpretation of same constitutes Portell-Vila's entire information dealing with possible contact of Oswald with Cuban diplomats in Russia. He said that he has not heard of any information in this

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

respect from any other source, nor of contacts with Cubans by Oswald except what he had read in newspapers or other public source media, or previously reported concerning a speech of Fidel Castro on November 27, 1963, wherein Castro made a comment which suggested that Oswald may have previously made at least one visit to Cuba.

Regarding his source, and as previously pointed out, Portell-Vila said that the actual identity of the source is unknown to him, but the source is part of an underground movement in Cuba. Regarding the source's reliability, Portell-Vila said that the information furnished by the source in the past has been reliable for the greater part. He said that he had made inquiry through means available to him within Cuba concerning the reliability of the source, and was informed that he could consider the informant reliable. He said he could not and would not elaborate further, even under legal process, as to the mechanics used in his obtaining this information, nor concerning the identity of the person attesting to the reliability of the informant, because he feared that disaster would befall those involved.

He explained that this information was probably furnished to him as a person whose background attested that he was anti-Castro, and whose position and contacts in this country, exemplified best by his writing articles for "Bohemia Libre," marked him as a person who could put any information against Castro to use, or place it in the proper official hands for exploitation.

On May 14, 1964, Dr. Portell-Vila exhibited a copy of his article which appears in Spanish in the December 22, 1963, edition of "Bohemia Libre." It is entitled, "El Extrano Asesinato Del Presidente Kennedy" (President Kennedy's Strange Assassination). It starts on page twenty of this magazine. It is the article previously referred to above, and which Dr. Portell-Vila said was the product of research of public source material, and his interpretative analysis of same.

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

On the same date he also exhibited a copy of his article which appears in Spanish in the February 2, 1964, issue of the magazine "Bohemia Internacional," a Spanish language magazine which is printed in Venezuela, according to Portell-Vila. It is entitled "CAMBIO DE DISFRAZ" (Change of Disguise) and starts on page sixteen. It pertains generally to Oswald and the Fair Play for Cuba Committee aspect of the assassination. Again, according to Portell-Vila, as in the case of his previous article on the assassination, the material is the result of research and interpretative analysis on his part of public source material where Oswald is concerned, with the exception of a brief reference to Oswald's being in contact with the previously named Cuban Ambassadors in Moscow, Russia. The message from the unknown source in Cuba previously described is the source for this reference in the article.

With respect to this reference in the article, and by way of explanation, it is to be noted that a translation of Dr. Portell-Vila's article appearing in the February 2, 1964, issue of "Bohemia Internacional," is contained in the report of Special Agent James J. O'Connor, dated May 8, 1964, at Miami, Florida, under the Lee Harvey Oswald caption. Therein, Portell-Vila, on the topic of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, stated in part:

During the course of 1960-1961, he was a visiting professor at the University of Florida in Gainesville, where there was a branch of the "Fair Play" in operation. It boasted that it had 21 branches in the United States and four in Canada, with a membership of 6,000. The New Orleans branch was not among them at the time, because it was not formed until two years later, when Lee Harvey Oswald, the presumed assassin of President Kennedy, returned to the United States after his contacts with the Communist Cuban Ambassadors in Moscow, Faure Chomon and Carlos Olivares. Concerning this last-mentioned fact, the communist dictatorship of Cuba says nothing, although the Kremlin has turned over to the United States a file with the documents referring to Oswald in the Soviet Union.

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

This is the part of the article to which Portell-Vila was referring above, the source of which is the message from his unknown source in Cuba.

It is also indicated in the same translation of his article, that he further states that:

Besides, the information from the anti-communist underground movement which operates right under the nose of Raul Roa Garcia, in the Ministry of State in Havana, shows that Oswald's relations with the "Fair Play for Communist Cuba" began before July, 1962, when he returned from the Soviet Union, and that they had been sponsored by Castro's diplomatic agents in Moscow, at the time Oswald was there.

As previously pointed out, Portell-Vila in his interview of May 13, 1964, indicated that his only information in this regard was the message from his source in Cuba, and on May 14, 1964, he stated that the article expressed his interpretative analysis of this information.

It is noted that the translation also states that:

During his speech of November 27, 1963, at the University of Havana, when Castro said "the first time that Oswald was in Cuba", his tongue was under the influence of "Feralta" cognac, and he revealed something which is very important.

It will be recalled in this respect that Portell-Vila advised during his February 17, 1964, interview that he read in a November 29, 1963, publication that in a speech on November 27, 1963, Fidel Castro, whether through a slip of the tongue or as the result of the influence of liquor, made a comment which suggested that Oswald may have previously made at least one visit to Cuba. He conjectured that this trip of Oswald could have taken place while he was in Mexico last year or perhaps while he was in Russia. He said at the time he had no additional information in this regard.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : A. W. BELMONT

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Mohr
- 1 - DeLoach
- 1 - Conrad
- 1 - Rosen
- 1 - W.C. Sullivan
- 1 - Malley

DATE: May 15, 1964

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Casper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conrad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Evans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tavel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holmes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Attached hereto is a copy of the Director's testimony, before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, on May 14, 1964, which was furnished to us by the Commission.

Copies of this have been made available to Messrs. J.P. Mohr, C.D. DeLoach, A. Rosen, J. R. Malley, I. Conrad, W. C. Sullivan and me for the purpose of reviewing it for accuracy, typographical errors, reporting errors, etc. Following this review by the above-mentioned persons, such corrections as appear necessary will be made and the Director will be advised.

This volume of testimony also contains the testimony of John McCone and Richard Helms of Central Intelligence Agency. We will not review their testimony for other than information purposes.

Enclosure
AHE:hmm
(3)

NOT RECORDED
199 JUN 11 1964

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-104701-169

Memo 5/19/64

12-107090-168

you find testimony with corrections made.

6/12/64

AWB: HZ

ENCLOSURE
179 JUN 15 1964

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PERS. REC. UNIT

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
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Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: 5/19/64

FROM : A. H. Belmont

cc Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Malley
 Mr. Sullivan

SUBJECT: DIRECTOR'S TESTIMONY BEFORE
THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Attached is a copy of the transcript of the Director's testimony before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy. This transcript has been examined for accuracy, including misspellings and typographical errors on the part of the court reporter. It is noted that apparently the court reporter did not record the Director's testimony accurately in some instances. We have made as few changes as possible, in order to preserve the intent and accuracy of the Director's testimony.

This testimony was gone over by Messrs. Mohr, Malley, Branigan, M. A. Jones, Gheesling, Rogge, and me, on a word-by-word basis. In addition, Assistant Directors Sullivan, Rosen, DeLoach and Conrad have read the testimony and furnished their suggestions.

It is planned that I will personally go over these changes with Mr. Rankin of the Commission.

Enclosure

AHB:CSH (5)

memo 5/21/64
see 62-109090-16
for original - testimony
6/12/64
AW

ENCLOSURE

REC-112

11 JUN 1964

168

PERS. REC. UNIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE CHICAGO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN DALLAS	DATE 5/22 /64	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/11 - 12/64
TITLE OF CASE LEE HARVEY OSWALD		REPORT MADE BY DENNIS W. SHANAHAN	TYPED BY KBL
		CHARACTER OF CASE IS - R - CUBA	

REFERENCES: Report of SA DENNIS W. SHANAHAN dated 4/28/64 at Chicago.
St. Louis airtel to the Director dated 5/6/64.

- P -

100-10461-30

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4 - Dallas (100-10461)		NON-ASSIGNMENT	
2 - Chicago (62-6115)		SOVIET	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report		Notations	
Agency			
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.			
How Fwd.			
By			

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA DENNIS W. SHANAHAN Office: Chicago, Illinois
Date: May 22, 1964
Field Office File #: 62-6115 Bureau File #: 105-82555
Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - R - CUBA

Synopsis: ROBERT ALLEN FELDE, Chicago Police Officer and former
United States Marine, does not recall OSWALD.

- P -

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 20, 1964

1

ROBERT ALLEN FELDE, 4448 North Mobile Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, advised that he is a Patrolman with the Chicago Police Department and has been with this Department since 1961. He stated that he formerly resided at 3616 North Lamont Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

FELDE advised that he had been a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps from 1956 to 1958, serial number 1615775, and had been stationed during his entire tour of duty at Camp Pendleton, California. He stated that he had been assigned to a heavy equipment section in 1956 and in 1957 and 1958, had been with the Military Police at Camp Pendleton. FELDE stated that he had no recollection whatsoever of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and to the best of his knowledge, had never met OSWALD in or out of the Marine Corps.

He advised he had not been aware that his name had been mentioned in "Life" magazine in the issue dated February 21, 1964.

On 5/12/64 at Chicago, Illinois File # CG 62-6115
by SA DENNIS W. SHANAHAN/rms Date dictated 5/18/64

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