



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

February 19, 1964

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.



LEE HARVEY OSWALD

*Declassified by 2040
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A typewritten letter in Spanish, postmarked January 17, 1964, Mexico, D. F., was sent to Attorney General ROBERT F. KENNEDY by one ERNESTO FLORES LUNA, not further identified.

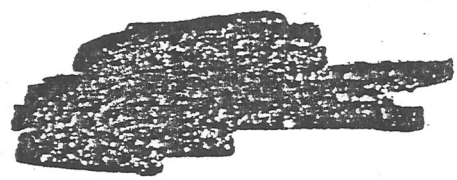
The letter states in part: "We take the liberty of reproducing with care certain documents which arrived from Tapachula, State of Chiapas, addressed to OSWALD, assassin of your brother." The letter continues that these documents were addressed by a clerk in the shoe store of VICTOR COHEN, FIDEL CASTRO's intimate friend, and the man who was delivering shipments from him to OSWALD and three other people who were to assassinate President LOPEZ MATEOS of Mexico. The letter states that COHEN indicated he was interested in the President of the United States. It is also indicated that more documents possibly exist in COHEN's residence.

The writer claims COHEN was CASTRO's treasurer and that it was noted prior to all this that he was keeping various individuals of different nationalities in his house, including OSWALD, who was in Mexico looking for work and then went to Texas. There were no enclosures to this letter.

T-1, on June 27, 1961, furnished the results of various inquiries and investigations made in the vicinity of Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico.

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MC 105-3702-298

THIS SERIAL HAS BEEN REFERRED TO
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FILE NO. ~~105-82555~~ MC 105-3702-298

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[REDACTED]

band is widely practiced by many, if not most, of the residents of the area.

[REDACTED] of the Mexican Federal Highway Police stationed at Tapachula, on February 11, 1964, advised that he is acquainted with VICTOR COHEN, who has a store and other property in Tapachula. He said COHEN owns at least two large trucks and a motor launch, and is almost certainly engaged in contraband; although this has never been established. Reportedly, in the past, COHEN has been involved in arms traffic, but [REDACTED] has never been able to confirm this rumor. It was his opinion that COHEN might engage in any type of activity which would gain him money, but that he would not involve himself personally in illegal activities for political reasons. He stated he knew of no pro-CASTRO groups or activities in the Tapachula area.

[REDACTED] of the Mexican Immigration Service at Tapachula, advised on February 11, 1964, that he was well acquainted with VICTOR COHEN, a prosperous local merchant. He said he is quite certain that COHEN, for years, has been involved in contraband activities. He and his men have tried to follow COHEN's activities and establish a violation of Mexican laws, but so far without success. There have been rumors that COHEN has been involved in transporting arms, but this has never been established.

During the course of their investigations and surveillances, they have never noted any contacts between COHEN and any North Americans or other foreigners. [REDACTED] said it was ridiculous to consider that COHEN would ever do anything from political motivation, as he was certain COHEN was only interested in making money. He was certain that COHEN is not pro-CASTRO and advised that there are no pro-CASTRO groups or activities in that vicinity, to his knowledge.

It was determined through pretext neighborhood inquiry that COHEN resides with his family at 3a Calle Oriente #54, Tapachula. Neighbors have not noted any North Americans or other foreigners residing or visiting with the COHENS.

[REDACTED]

None of the above persons contacted at Tapachula was acquainted with an ERNESTO FLORES LUNA. [REDACTED] conducted inquiries concerning such a person with negative results.

VICTOR COHEN CHARAFF was contacted February 11, 1964, at his store, La Nacional, 3a Calle Poniente 35, Tapachula. He was advised briefly concerning the contents of the letter directed to the United States which indicated that he was pro-FIDEL CASTRO and had been in contact with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He stated he would be happy to cooperate in all possible respects to resolve this matter.

COHEN stated he is not at all interested in politics, neither the politics of the United States nor of Cuba nor of any other nation. He is not pro-CASTRO, he has never known CASTRO or any of his adherents, has never belonged to any CASTRO type organization, and would not belong to any such organization. He is a practicing capitalist with a prosperous business and extensive property in Tapachula, where he has 40 employees. His businesses in Tapachula take all his time. He is well regarded by the municipal authorities in Tapachula and suggested that, among others, the head of the local Immigration Office could be contacted concerning him.

Because he is prosperous and because he is Jewish, he has many enemies locally.

The name ERNESTO FLORES LUNA has no significance whatever for him.

He has no business or properties in Mexico City and has never lived in Mexico City, although he frequently visits his father in Mexico City. He stated this could be confirmed by his father, but added that his father is an elderly man and should not be disturbed.

He has not had contact with any North Americans or other foreigners in the past year and has never let rooms at his house or other property to North Americans or other foreigners. All his rental units are occupied by doctors.

[REDACTED]

As far as he knows, none of his employees is pro-CASTRO. He has one typewriter and none of his employees use it. He furnished samples from this machine. He is at his place of business all day every day, not even leaving the premises for lunch.

He is unfamiliar with OSWALD and was unable to identify a photograph of OSWALD from a group of representative photographs. He recalled reading that OSWALD had been in Mexico, but knew nothing further concerning this visit.



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