



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

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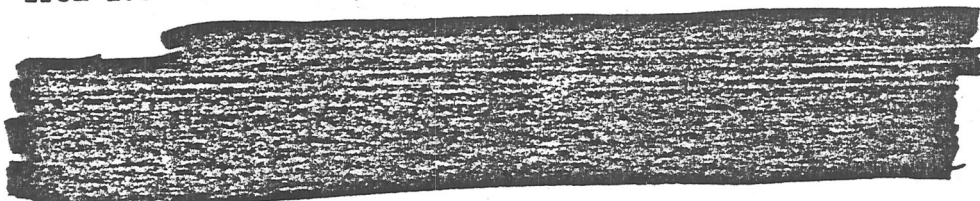
April 23, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

T-1, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, reported that as a result of the assassination of President KENNEDY and the publication of the facts concerning OSWALD's leftist connections and his prior residence in the Soviet Union, many members of the American Communist Group in Mexico (ACGM) were extremely fearful, expecting police harassment of all leftists.

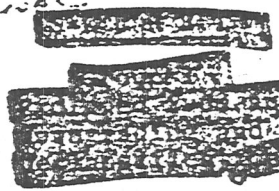
The ACGM is a loose association of a predominantly social nature of present and/or past members of the Communist Party, USA, and their friends and associates who share a common sympathy for communism and the Soviet Union.

The source identified CHARLES SMALL, true name CHARLES NELSON SMOLIKOFF, who was born in Brooklyn, New York, on March 16, 1911, as being one of the most prominent associates of the ACGM. According to the source, SMALL is a United States citizen who resides in Mexico, D. F., where he operates a tourist-type store at Calle Niza No. 47. SMALL sells silver jewelry and other gift items at his store. T-1 stated that SMALL resided in Miami, Florida, from 1939 to October, 1954, when he moved to Mexico.



*1. L. 2-1-64
2. cc Comm by Gene. Cotto. 4/22/64 014
1 cc CIA
1 cc Dept of State 4/22/64
1 cc Dallas 4/22/64
1 cc net 645 AB*

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a. original records of 3/11/64

MC 105-3702-495

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INVESTIGATION RE: BRACELET,
POST CARDS, AND PAMPHLET

In connection with the possibility that a silver-colored bracelet considered to be of Japanese origin was given by OSWALD to his wife, MARINA NIKOLAEVNA OSWALD, upon his return to Dallas, Texas, from Mexico, after October 3, 1963, T-1 advised on February 18, 1964, that SMALL was not

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known to handle imported Japanese merchandise in his store in Mexico, D. F., which merchandise would be similar to the type of bracelet given to Mrs. OSWALD.

T-1 stated that post cards had never been observed on sale in SMALL's store at any time, and this would seem to obviate OSWALD's having purchased at SMALL's store six colored post cards, depicting scenes in Mexico, which reportedly were among OSWALD's possessions. T-1 also advised on February 18, 1964, that SMALL had not been known to have available for sale or distribution any pamphlets exactly like or similar to the pamphlet reportedly located among OSWALD's possessions with the inscription on the cover page: "Hipodromo de las Americas, S. A., Mexico, D. F."

T-1 advised that additional inquiries would be made at SMALL's store for any possibility that OSWALD could have purchased or obtained the above-mentioned bracelet, post cards, and/or pamphlet at his store and that a check also would be made for these items at the four known outlets of Japanese merchandise in Mexico, D. F., which are known to T-1.

On February 19, 1964, T-1 advised that careful review had been made of all the bracelets in SMALL's store and none of these were of Japanese origin or appeared in any way similar to a photograph of the above-mentioned bracelet.

T-1 advised that a complete verification was made of T-1's previous observations that no post cards exist at or are sold at SMALL's store in Mexico, D. F.

T-1 advised that the six colored post cards, depicting various scenes in Mexico, which were in OSWALD's possession were designed and manufactured by one FISCHGRUND, one of the two largest manufacturers of post cards in Mexico, and that these post cards are sold in a great number of stores in Mexico. T-1 emphasized that it would be an impossible and infeasible task to attempt to trace the six colored post cards at the many stores throughout areas in Mexico where OSWALD might have been.

T-1 advised that a check of four known outlets of

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Japanese merchandise in Mexico, D. F., was made and that these outlets do not handle any type of bracelet which would be similar to the one which OSWALD gave his wife.

T-2, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that 244 stores, including jewelry stores, tourist-type gift shops, and stores handling silverware, in Mexico, D. F., were contacted during the period March 6 through 13, 1964, without locating any store which carries the type of bracelet which OSWALD gave his wife.

T-2 concluded that OSWALD could not have purchased the bracelet in Mexico since the import tax on such an article not manufactured in Mexico would be prohibitive for resale at a profit, unless OSWALD bought it from an ambulatory street vendor, in which case the bracelet might have been smuggled into Mexico by a Japanese sailor at the port of Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico. If the latter occurred, OSWALD might have had a problem upon presenting the bracelet to an engraver in Mexico because he would have been handling smuggled merchandise.

T-3, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, contacted 59 stores in Mexico, D. F., during the period March 7 through 14, 1964, which included jewelry stores, stores selling silverware, and stores handling engraving, and was unable to locate any store which carried the type of bracelet OSWALD gave his wife.

As a result, T-3 did not believe OSWALD could have purchased the bracelet in Mexico because the import tax on a bracelet not manufactured in Mexico would prohibit resale at a profit.

T-3 also stated that, if OSWALD bought the bracelet in Mexico, he could have purchased it from a street vendor, who could have obtained it from a Japanese seaman in Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico, in which case OSWALD would have had a problem getting the bracelet engraved because it would have been smuggled into Mexico.

MEXICO CITY THOROUGHBRED RACE TRACK

T-4, a confidential source abroad, advised that on

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March 19, 1964, DANIEL GALINDO, Assistant Manager of the Hipodromo de las Americas, S. A., Mexico, D. F., a thoroughbred race track, stated he was familiar with the pamphlet entitled "Hipodromo de las Americas, S. A., Mexico, D. F." GALINDO related that this pamphlet was published by the race track three or four years ago, explaining in English and in Spanish the "Rules for Betting in 1-2 Selection and Quinielas."

This pamphlet was given wide distribution at the race track and at souvenir shops, hotels, motels, drugstores, and restaurants and for a time was inserted in the programs on racing days for patrons of the track. The race track still has some copies of this pamphlet on hand, but has not distributed it during recent years. The same information recorded in the pamphlet is now published in the racing program for a given day whenever space is available for that purpose.

GALINDO stated such a pamphlet could possibly have been picked up from any of the numerous localities in Mexico, D. F., where the pamphlet was previously distributed if copies are still available, but all the localities are now unknown to him.

JAI ALAI IN MEXICO CITY

T-5, a confidential source abroad, advised in connection with the possibility that OSWALD might have attended a jai alai game in Mexico, D. F., that the "Mexico City Daily Bulletin," a free English publication circulated at hotels, motels, drug stores, and tourist-type stores in Mexico, D. F., lists daily the following as a sport event of interest:

"Jai alai, the ancient game from Spain, can be seen every day but Monday at Fronton Mexico, Plaza de la Republica, at 7:30 p.m. (men players) and every afternoon except Thursday at 4:30 p.m. at Fronton Metropolitano, Bahia Todos Santos 190 (women players). Parimutuel betting at both."

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T-5 related that on March 19, 1964, GUADALUPE GAYTAN SANCHEZ, caretaker and resident at the Fronton Mexico, Plaza de la Republica No. 3, Mexico, D. F., for thirty years, was unable to identify the photograph of OSWALD. GAYTAN SANCHEZ stated that ENRIQUE MARTINEZ DE VILLAGRAN has been the doorman at the Fronton Mexico for twenty years and, as such, observes every person who enters to determine that this person is properly dressed and not the type who might cause a disturbance at the jai alai game.

T-5 advised that on March 19, 1964, ENRIQUE MARTINEZ DE VILLAGRAN was unable to identify OSWALD's photograph, but stated the photograph appeared similar to an American who had entered the Fronton Mexico five or six months previously on several occasions for a period of a week and a day. He was not certain the American could be identical with OSWALD nor did he have any specific information about the American, his whereabouts, or his background.

T-5 related that on March 20, 1964, IGNACIO VADILLO B., the general cashier for the Fronton Metropolitano, Bahia Todos Santos No. 190, Mexico, D. F., stated jai alai is not played at this Fronton. The game played there is Fron-Tenis, which differs from jai alai in that the players do not use a cesta (a basket fastened to the hand of the player), but a racket similar to a tennis racket is used.

VADILLO B. stated few, if any, Americans frequent the Fronton Metropolitano and those who do so are usually remembered. VADILLO B. was unable to identify the photograph of OSWALD as an American who might have been at the Fronton Metropolitano. He suggested that OSWALD's photograph be displayed to ESQUIEL TAPIA ROMERO, an Inspector for the Treasury Department for the Federal District of Mexico, because TAPIA ROMERO is always on duty at the front door of the Fronton Metropolitano to observe all customers as they enter.

T-5 advised that ESQUIEL TAPIA ROMERO viewed the photograph of OSWALD on March 20, 1964, and stated definitely that OSWALD had not been at the Fronton Metropolitano.

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