

Chapter 10. *"The Best Liar I Have Talked To In My Many Years And I Have Talked To Some of The Biggest"*

Hosty's lurid hints and threats about his Mexican connection, his oft-promised and ~~never~~ never delivered Mexico City "bombshells" were just talk. But they also are

~~Hosty's~~ mouthing off with

his picking ~~me~~ up and continuing with Hoover's instant vision the afternoon of the assassination, that the assassination was by a "Red". As we have seen, Hoover had this vision as soon as the 112th Army intelligence unit in Texas disclosed that Oswald had "defected" to the USSR, which he was careful ^{not} to do. With the help of our Moscow consular employee, Richard Snyder. After Snyder was exposed by an ~~East~~ East German book, ^{Who's Who in the CIA,} as being CIA, it was admitted, including by him, that he had been CIA but that was of the past, that he no longer was. When he testified before the Warren Commission (5H26044) he was described in the Report as a "foreign service officer stationed in the Embassy in the Soviet Union." (page 497) However, according to the Commission records I examined in the National Archives, when his testimony was sent to him to read and correct before publication and he was then at the United Nations, it was not sent to him there. It was sent to the State Department. So, perhaps the question lingers with no proof either way, was Snyder CIA when he saw to it that when Oswald went to the Moscow embassy to defect, Snyder saw to it that he did not defect?

As we have also seen, Johnson persuaded Chief Justice Warren to become chairman of his Presidential Commission, even though Warren knew he should not ~~accept~~ accept that post and the entire Supreme Court agreed with him, because if he did not there could be a war "which cost 40 million ~~live~~ lives. No one could refused to do something which might prevent such a possibility. The President convinced him..." (Whitewash IV, page 24)

Hosty's bombast of "bombshells" is a continuation of the official mythology that Hoover decided upon and based upon which he had the ~~FBI~~ FBI enter the case when, as he bragged about it several times to William Manchester, the FBI had no jurisdiction because killing a President was not then a federal crime. ^(FBI HQ Q 62-109060 and 94-48268, 6/4/64) It was only later that night, when the new President asked the FBI to conduct an assassination investigation for him, which the FBI is authorized by law to do, conduct special investigations for presidents,

that Hoover and the FBI had the legal authority to do what Hoover had begun to do illegally. Thus at FBIHQ all its ~~own~~ massive JFK assassination file has the FBI's "62" classification. In the FBI's list of its file classifications, 62 is "Administrative Inquiry."

We have also seen that at least one Mexico City tape of a CIA intercepted and taped co Oswald conversation and what was said to be a photograph of him taken outside the Soviet embassy was flown to Dallas immediately by SA Eldon Rudd of the FBI's Mexico City "legal attache's" office, reaching Sa Dallas, after 2 a.m. the morning of the day after the assassination, November 23, 1964. On this basis, ^{on the day before} Hosty could not have had any Mexico City "bombshell" in ~~his~~ the Dallas Oswald file that he later said was "stolen" from it. He sought to give the impression that with that alleged theft that while line of investigation was aborted. The papers all interpreted ^{it} that way, as we have seen, regardless of what Hosty's exact words were. That was not only false, it was impossible. While in assessing what Hosty said we are addressing whether his word can be believed in connection with his claim that Oswald was never an informant or source for him and with whether the note or letter Oswald left for him held threats to bomb, we are doing more than this. We are taking an inside look at the character of the supposed investigations of the assassination, by both the FBI and the Commission and the CIA, and of the officially invented "Red" angle to the assassination made up by Hoover. ^{and sought to be made real after he looked it up.}

All the FBI headquarters records are slugged this way. When the Archives sold me the Commission's list of its numbered documents and the FBI learned about it, although that was a public list the FBI was outraged and complained so bitterly about it the Archives suspended selling copies of that list to which all researchers not only had ~~free~~ free access at the Archives, they had to use it to tell the archivists what records they wanted to ~~examine~~ study!

This is to say that the FBI was really up tight over any proof of how it captioned its investigation being available for use and reproductions. In its five-volume report ordered of it by President Johnson, it said the exact opposite, that they had not been any "Red" or any other kind of conspiracy.

This is also the exact opposite of what Hosty was spouting off about in saying that

in Mexico City Oswald had gotten together with the alleged Soviet expert in "wet jobs" of killings.

In the course of recounting the actualities of the Mexico City investigation and how the political irrationality of the Cold War mentality that dominated everything in those days ~~almost~~ could have ~~gone~~ started World War III, I told how out then Ambassador Thomas Mann was using the fabrication of the Nicaraguan intelligence agent Gilberto Alvarado Ugarte in a way that, if adopted, would have begun that war. ~~But~~ In telling this story I drew upon about 200 pages of the CIA's first JFK assassination disclosed records made available in early 1976 and on the FBI's records I obtained in those FOIA lawsuits. Most of those are records to which, as a practical matter, I do not now have access because they are in file cabinets in our basement and use of the stairs is unsafe for me. However, just as I finished writing the preceding chapter through the kindness of Mrs. Anna Marie Kuhns Walko I got copies of part of the Massive CIA Oswald 201 or "Personality Profile" the CDA made available/as part of its delayed and woefully incomplete compliance ~~with~~ and long-delayed compliance with the 1992 law that supposedly required full disclosure of all assassination and assassinated-related records by all executive agencies of the government. In what follows I quote ~~from a CIA~~ large CIA record that bears no title but appears to be its own summary of some/assassination records. I know of some not included in this CIA record.

As those Mexico City records, those its station there originated and those it got from CIA headquarters only, there are remarkable few references to the FBI's Mexico City office and not to any record it obtained from that FBI office or any other FBI record. In these many pages typed sideways, with the ~~leg leg~~ length of the paper its width, the CIA numbers, dates, times, identifies the "contact" reflected and with about half of each ^{item} sheet gives its "Reason for Contact." In its own summary the CIA ^A confirms what I say above of Ambassador Mann and his determination to get ^{our} the government to do something about Cuba when there was no basis for his intense Cold War yen, before any effort was made to confirm it, and that he never changed his mind. The CIA's own summary reflects that it convinced Ambassador Mann to believe that fabricated Alvarado Ugarte story. ^Ir discloses

the high probability if not the certainty that Oswald did not have ^{been} the slight contact with the supposed Soviet expert on assassinations, "ostikov. It makes clear that in asking the Mexican police to arrest and lean on Silvia Duran, the receptionist/secretary at the Cuban embassy, the Mexican police beat her up and that under that ^{physical} pressure she "confessed" to what has not been publicized, an ^{sex} affair with Oswald. (The earlier CIA release ^{They also held} did disclosed ~~inferentially~~ that the police had beat her up ~~at~~ a headquarters message to Mexico City urging it to try to see to it that when she was rearrested she was not beatn up. ~~She~~ lost her ~~job~~ thanks to this farout and irrational CIA interest to her and as of the end of these records, the last of which is dated February 3, 1968, had not gotten ~~another job.~~ other employment.) This CIA summary also establishes it without question that the CIA had the ^SSoviet and Cuban phones tapped, taped and transcribed and that it covered by both ~~diplomatic~~ ^{diplomatic} installations with photographic surveillance^{to.}, The CIA ~~to~~ got full and unstinting cooperation from the Mexican police. It provided surveillance services to the ~~the CIA~~ to supplement the CIA's own surveillances ~~by~~ by its agents. It eavesdropped on and reported the words of the heads of ~~to other~~ States, an abuse of which it has made loud ^{complaints} directed at other ~~states.~~ And with regard to Alvarado and other such made-up stories about ~~which~~ ^{which} it was so uncritically, so unquestioningly excited it had a special responsibility for what if under its influence Ambassador Mann had been able to get Washington to do that ^{it} could have started World War III.

All in all it is an ^{but} unintended ^{ly} remarkably detailed account of how the CIA contributed to the Hoover invention of a "Red" assassination and an account of how with the ~~enormous~~ enormous waste of manpower and money there was no real assassination investigation there at all and not only by the CIA. The Commission actually sent three of its counsels to Mexico City to do little more than read what the CIA had and be influenced by its prejudices. Two ~~of~~ counsels were not ~~enough~~ enough for ~~the~~ Rankin. In addition to William Coleman and David Slawson, he also sent the Millens who had been cast by Katzenbach as his source on what the Commission ^{was} doing and not doing.

To do little more than read ~~the~~ the CIA Mexico City records.

Unless all involved at the Commission, including Rankin in particular, were entirely unaware of the realities of the world around them, were not aware of the fact that of all the governments that might want Kennedy assassinated for their own political reasons few were less likely to want him dead than Cuba and the USSR, sending this trio of counsels down to ~~the~~ Mexico to do little more than read those transcripts

makes little sense. Even if their collective minds were captive to the Cold War mythologies, as they probably were. They could and they did learn nothing they had not already been told.

(Anna Marie ^{u/}Kilms Walko, who ^psent days on end examining these ^{c. would CIA} ~~personality~~-profile records tells me she found proof that they had two different numbers identifying Oswald with personality profiles.)

Long before they got there the Alvarado ^Ugarte fabrication has been proven to be confessedly false, along with what the CIA refers to as a "flood" of other such ~~made-up~~ stories, already proven to be false in the FBI records the Commission had. ~~And~~ ^T it did not require the time and cost for three of the Commission's counsels to go to and remain in Mexico City to read the transcripts, as they did, of the CIA's taping and transcribing of all the phone conversations of the Cuban and Soviet diplomatic installations there, most ~~of which~~ ^{of} had no relevance in any event.

Because the Commission began ~~with~~ ^with the determination to find Oswald the lone assassin, meaning that there had been no conspiracy, the only ~~pur~~ ^{purpose} real purpose in sending this large a percentage of the Commission's ~~counseles~~ ^{counseles}, three of 14 or almost a quarter of them, was to see to it that no Mexico City records held any proof of any conspiracy. 206A

Al most a quarter of the Commission's counsels on this wild-goose chase with all the real work to be on in investigating the assassination! *Real work That went undone.*

The only CIA heading on this document is "Lee Harvey Oswald" centered on the first sheet. It is folloed, ^e on the same line, by "P-593" and "201-298248." This is the ^{or one of its} number of its "personality profile" file on ~~Lee~~ Oswald. 206B

The first item- and ~~maxim~~ while these are obviously from the phone taps that is not stated - is clearly of a phone call by Oswald to the USSR ~~embassy~~ consulate at 1037 on January September 27. (All time is given as GMT) He ^e "wanted visa to go to ~~Odesa~~ Odesa (sic). Consul was not in. Subject told to call back at 1130."

The second item, at 1605, is "Silvia DURAN calls Soviet ~~Embassy~~ ^{Embassy} (MO) It ^{is} a long ^{with} ~~with~~ ⁱⁿ account of the problem of "the American citizen" seeking visas. She is ~~all~~ ^{all} called back ⁹ with a long explanation at 1626. These exchanges of calls continue for three pages. ⁹ While it is clear that these 133 pages in Box 57 refer to phone taps and transcripts, the first record I saw to tapes of these ¹ conversations being punched to Washington is in Folder 5, the document the CIA numbered for its disclosure records as 262-~~271~~ ⁵ It is dated November 29. The first references to the transcriptions of these ~~to~~ tapes was in 192-625, dated two days earlier. The first summary sent was on November 23, ^{It is} of the call to the Soviet consulate.

Contrary to Hosty's "bombshell" intended to give the impression that ~~once~~ ^{once} ~~maxim~~ it

No Kostikov, no ~~"wet jobs"~~ "wet jobs" imagined connection. Not that this Kostikov was proven to be such ~~a spy~~ ^{a spy}, an assassin. That, too, is only conjectured. But that there was nothing to ~~to~~ this at all did not discourage the ^{in Dallas} "osty-minded in Mexico, or in Washington. The whole thing is based ~~first~~ first on what is not proven, that Kostikov was a professional KGB assassin, and then that Oswald met with him briefly, which all the evidence is that he did not.

But with nothing more important than the Cold War to the Cold Warriors, starting this baseless scare ^{" "} was their way of establishing truth when the President was assassinated: by compounded conjectures and by ignoring all the realities.

was "stolen" from the file he had nothing at all was done about that ~~the~~ alleged Soviet "wet jobs" expert, whose full name is given as Valeriy Vladimorovich Kostikov, there was an immediate search of all records ¹ relating to him and he was put ^{Comp. testing} under surveillance on November 23. The origin of the report that Oswald conferred with ^{Kostikov} seems to be Oswald's speaking "in broken Russian" telling the guard at the consulate that he had spoken to the "Consul whom he believed to be" Kostikov on September 28. It later turns out that ^{my} from Oswald's description of that man it was not ~~Kostikov~~ Kostikov. 207A

The records cited seem to reflect that as soon as the tapes were transcribed the CIA station informed headquarters and asked for pictures of Oswald, ^{using} once giving his name as "Lee Henry Oswald". The numbers of the ^{messages} communications ^{both ways} is given for all these communications.

The ¹ first Mexico City record referring to the ~~as~~ assassination is No. 7014. It calls to ~~FBI~~ CIA Headquarters attention what it had sent earlier about Oswald, including the apparently incorrect refer^ence Oswald made to Kostokov to the ^{USSR embassy} guard, Ivan Obyedkov. The day after the assassination there seem to have been more ~~than~~ exchanges than on ~~any~~ any other day. For the first two days the biggest single topic is Silvia ^{Duran}, her arrest and the phone intercepts. The first refer^ence to Alvarado Urarte is ^{in pages 3 and 19} in Item 82, November 25:

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Memo from RSO: Subject: Gilberto ALVARADO, tel: 41-07-31; address, Pino 173, Col. Santa Maria de la Virrera, Nicaraguan cit, born 31 Jan 40 in Ciudad Rama, State of Celaya, Nic. - Juan LORILLO, Rolan ALVARADO and Carlos Fonseca AMADOR are members of his organization in Nicaragua. Source claims he was sent to Mexi by Nic Communists to go to Cuba where he will be trained in sabotage, but he will go after he gets documented as a Mexi cit. The Cuban Emb in Mexi is going to come up with a false Mexi birth certificate for him. Source said two persons were in the Cub Emb the morning of 25 Nov 63 at 1100 who are involved in the plot to assassinate Pres. Kennedy. He described them as one being white person with a large cleft nose. The other person had close cropped hair with a copete. Mr. ALVARADO claims that on the 18th of Sept he was in the Cub Emb in Mexi and he saw OSWALD receive \$6,500. OSWALD was speaking with a Negro, about 29 yrs of age, who had a scar on his jaw, had reddish hair which is probably tinted. The Negro spoke English well and might be a North American. OSWALD was speaking of eliminating a person. The

But without the basic, most elemental checking the CIA went for this palpable fiction ~~to~~ so devotedly, so passionately that all the way up to ~~Direct~~ its director, John McCone, ~~they~~ it was believed. On his part, McCone propagandized it on Capitol Hill. He actually went aro^ynd with it in the Congress and by that earned Hoover's caustically-articulated contempt in his annotation of the records reporting it. And McCone had the reputation of being a cautious, conservative, hard-headed R^epublican businessman.

The CIA went for this childish fabrication that thoroughly, all the way ^{up} to its head, and he took it to the Congress.

Without a bit, without the tiniest bit, of any checking.

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Negro then said that he was sorry that he could not accompany OSWALD, but said "you understand my situation". OSWALD then replied that's all right I can do this by myself. The source was of the opinion that OSWALD had come from Habana and when OSWALD entered he was affectionately greeted by a female employee of the Cub Emb who has blue eyes and lives at Calle Juarez 407. Source also stated that OSWALD was given \$1,500 for extra expenses. Source stated that when he went to the bathroom he saw OSWALD counting the money, in American dollars, on the patio which is adjacent. ~~THE~~ RSO and D/RSO made an appointment to meet ALVARADO at 0930 26 Nov at the cafeteria of the Hotel Francis. (Signed A. C. Plambeck)

This is the beginning of what could have started World War III. As the Mexico City station later says, it had a "flood" of false reports. ~~and~~ as these among many other records reflect, stalwart efforts along those lines were made by the American and Latin American right-wing and by an assortment of anti-Castro. There were a few other made-up stories like this one that were checked a bit with a little polygraphing but this is the one that the CIA Cold War, college-educated nuts really went for big and pushed hard. This probably account for the absence of references to the FBI's legal attache on this ^{Alvarado fabrication} because that office began with doubts, serious doubts that were shared immediately by FBIHQ ^{I (unlike the CIA Cold War nuts, FBI immediately sought and)} which before long came up with the proof positive that it was all a made-up lie.

It is because of its importance and the danger to the world that it presented, the serious attention to ~~it~~ and belief in it, and because of Hosty's misuse of and misrepresentation of it that I give it this attention. It is an important part of our history.

Ordinarily one would expect trained ^{and experienced} intelligence personnel to do the immediate checking the details in this story made possible. "Mike was there a red-headed black at the Cuban embassy? Was Oswald in Mexico City on September 18th or could he be proven to have been elsewhere? This is a question that could be asked of the legat for that office to ask FBIHQ, or CIA headquarters could have asked FBIHQ. ^{while Alvarado} ~~While~~ he could have known of that woman in the Cuban embassy and ~~be~~ he been correct about that, it also could easily have been checked. But the CIA liked this story much too much to treat it as such stories are usually treated, with questions until proven. 208A

In No. 96, MEXI 7069, the story continued th with the Embassy security officers ~~was~~ questioning ~~it~~. "He admitted he is really on a penetration mission for Nic Secret Service" and he named and gave the address of his superior in it. He added details and names to his story. ~~He~~ explained that when he saw Oswald's picture in the papers he

more than two months earlier he had not rushed to the embassy then. Or why he waited for three days after ~~th~~ he knew the ~~pr~~ President had been assassinated.

one of whom was David Atlee Phillips,

To this point the CIA's pulp fiction writers in its Mexico City station have provided nothing about what they refer to as Duran's "given" character. She did not "crack" and indeed there was nothing for her to "crack" about other than the beatings she got from the Mexican police at the CIA's requests. Although this refers to the "details of deal between OSWALD, AZQUE, MIRABAL and Silvia," there was no such "deal" and other than Alvarado's fabrication there was no reason even to suspect there had been any kind of deal. To get her to "corroborate" the ~~fixum~~ fabrication they loved so dearly they did no checking of it at all, the CIA in Mexico would ask the Mexican police "to go all out in seeing that she ^(Duran) does "corroborate ^{alvarado's} the crude fabrication. What the police do when they go "all ~~or~~ out" can only be imagined, but immediately before this the CIA refers to "her only chance for survival." And with the cheapest of pulp fiction the apotheosis of the CIA's intelligence, they even forecast that Duran would be "smuggled out of Mexi to Cuba or killed here."

It required the Cold War for this kind of "intelligence," not being the kind of bombshell Hosty was talking about and blowing the CIA itself up. The Cold War made any infantilism acceptable or more.

(Whether or not these were his credentials, Phillips later headed the CIA's western hemisphere division. After that he ~~resgi~~ resigned to found the society of former intelligence officers.) For it he had political qualifications, approving for membership only those whose political beliefs satisfied him. Thus he did not respond to my application for membership. In all other respects, I did qualify.)

His announced purpose was to defend the CIA against criticism.

contact ^{ed} the Embassy on November 25.

It apparently did not occur to anyone to ask him ~~why~~ why when he ^l heard this threat ~~to kill~~ ^{The President} ~~he waited for three days.~~ 2094

They repeat his opinion that ~~the JFK assassination was a Communist plot~~

he was "80% sure" the JFK assassination was a "Communist plot." and they record the good impression he made on them as a ¹¹young, quiet, serious person."

Still without any checking they are accrediting him.

The beginning of what qualified Ambassador Mann to become Lyndon Johnson's assistant secretary of State for Latin America follows in No. 97, the November 26 MEXI 7072:

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Amb Mann asks following be sent by COS to Sec. Rust, Mr. Mc Cone and Mr. Hoover: This message represents combined suggestions of myself, Scott and Anderson; In view of Nic (Ref A) and info in long distance telephone between DORTICOS and HERNANDEZ (Ref B) we suggest Mexicans be informed concerning Ref A and Nic be put at disposition of LOPEZ Mateos on condition LOPEZ Mateos will agree to order rearrest and interrogate Silvia DURAN as follows: a) Confront Silvia with Nic and have Nic inform her of details his statement to us. b) Tell Silvia she only living non-Cuban who knows full story and hence in same position as OSWALD prior to his assassination; her only chance for survival is to come clean with whole story and to cooperate completely with Mexi Gov in return for Mexi Gov protection. c) She will not in any case be allowed to leave Mexi. / Given apparent character of Silvia there would appear to be good chance of her cracking when confronted with details of deal between OSWALD, AZCUE, MIRABAL and Silvia and unknown Cuban negro. If she did break - and we suggest Mexicans should be asked to go all out in seeing that she does - we and Mexicans would have needed corroboration of statement of the Nic. Also suggest Mexi Gov identify and arrest unknown negro. Have Mexicans rearrest Silvia so as to eliminate possibility of her being smuggled out of Mexi to Cuba or killed here. We lack established reliability of Nic, but suggest that DORTICOS' preoccupation with money angle tends to corroborate authenticity of Nic statement. Thus there appears to be strong x possibility that a down payment was made to OSWALD in Cub Emb here. Request instructions.

When the identities are important in this, "CIA" "COS" in Station Chief Winfield Anderson was the FBI's Legat; #Scott's Bus "Rust" should be Rusk, Secretary of State. McCone and Hoover headed, respectively the CIA and the FBI, Dorticos was the Cuban president, Lopez Mateos was the president of Mexico, Azcue and Mirabel were in the Cuban consulate. And all of this without any checking first. That it was all given to Mann as real is in itself astounding.

2094B The next day, in No. 99, MEXI- 7084, "Amb. Mann requested (redacted) officer be sent to Mexi to give him more details on /OSWALD/RUBENSTEIN cases. This info only because it indicates Amb's feeling he is not being fully enough informed of aspects of these cases in U.S.A."

What is redacted is the FBI officer Mann actually wanted taken off the investigation and flown to Mexico to tell him what as ~~max~~ Sherlock ^Holmes if not as ambassador he

believed he needed to know for him to "solve" the crime!

This was soon followed by No. 100 of the same day, MEXI-7092. It responds to headquarters, DIR 85066 and 85036, which it crossed when they were sent. It appears that headquarters was beginning to see Pink Panthers:

(State's U. Alexis Johnson)

Amb's feeling is he not fully briefed on cases. etc.// COS finds present C/ [redacted] one of best and most cooperative. etc.// COS opinion it is desirable [redacted] sent officer to Mexi to satisfy Amb. Unless Mr. Johnson can convince Amb that Chief [redacted] Mexi will receive and make available to him all information concerning U.S. angles of these cases.

Still the same day, the next number and the next message reflect that the Pink Panther was coming more clearly into headquarters' focus as was concern about the fact that all this was being heated up by the Alvarado Ugarte story and the fact that no checking on it was reported from Mexico City:

Appreciate prompt instructions (sic). Alvarado's story being checked. He being reinterviewed and moved to safe address. Have asked ECHEVERRIA (Mexican police) as of night 26 Nov to put close surveillance on DURAN."

In Number 114 of November 27 in ~~DIR~~ DIRECTOR 85039 CIA headquarters told the Station that Johns had had Mann's telegram asking that a top FBI official be sent down to hold his hand and satisfy his Perry Mason curiosity and Johnson "is asking (redacted) expedite travel such officer and is enlisting assistance of Deputy Attorney General KATZENBACH in this matter. Will advise."

In MEXI-4609, Number 116, the station told headquarters more about what Alvarado Ugarte had said of himself, his cover name, his description, that he is a "good informant" with the reputation of being "inclined to exaggerate."

FBI records I have provide what is redacted from Number 116, DIRECTOR 85066 of November 27. It mixed treating Mann as his self - imp or force wanted:

DIR 85066 - Further to DIR 85039 (para 114 above) Mr. Johnson has informed me that Mr. KATZENBACH spoke with C [redacted] who contended that MEXI [redacted] office possessed all relevant info and that he was not disposed to send [redacted] officer to MEXI. PLS advise a) Whether [redacted] Mexi does in fact have necessary info b) Is it desirable in your opinion that [redacted] do send agent to MEXI?

This was the ~~is~~ ^{made-up} manufactured justification for ~~arresting~~ ^{again} her (and beating her up), to go "all out" to get her to confess to the truth of a ~~fabrica~~ fabrication.

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 The next ~~four~~ numbers, 118-22, are still on Alvarada Ugarte. They are all ^{of} that same day, November, 27, and that is ~~not~~ the end of them that day:

DIR 85178 - (Ref: Mexi 7069, 7072 - para 96 and 97 ^{above}) Amb Mann's message relayed to addressees. Decision will be cabled after they confer. In your investigation, suggest you contact ALVARADO's Nic case officer in Mexi and ask him whether ALVARADO has ever told him this story or anything like it. You can do this without further authorization. Request you not take any action to re-arrest DURAN or arrest others without approval from here. Presume you are checking to see whether ALVARADO ever made phone calls to the American Embassy he claims to have made.

DIR 85198 - (Ref: DIR 85178 - para 118 above) We feel investigation and analysis of ALVARADO's story should be pursued further before more executive action is taken. In lieu of arresting DURAN, suggest she be put under close surveillance by KUBARK or by Mexi authorities. Note ALVARADO's claim he is still working for Nic Service and ~~belief~~ belief he was dropped in Aug 63.

DIR 85258 (Ref: MEXI 7093 - para 105 ^{above}) - ~~belief~~ says OSWALD applied for unemployment insurance in New Orleans on 17 Sept, one day before Alvarado says he saw him in Cuban Emb Mexi. ~~belief~~ checking all airlines to see if he could have flown to MEXI by 18 Sept. He was in New Orleans on 25 Sept and left that day for Texas without paying his rent. He is believed to have been without funds during this period. ~~belief~~ says his New Orleans landlady believes he was there continuously between 17 and 25 Sept. Above gives further reason to believe ALVARADO is fabricating.

DIR 85318 (Ref: MEXI 7101 which states COS was advised at 1215 MEXI time via Lic. x ECHEVERRIA that Silvia DURAN has been rearrested because she was attempting to leave Mexi for Cuba. Request instructions.) - This instruction has been coordinated with ~~belief~~ Mexi authorities should interrogate Silvia to extent necessary clarify outstanding points which been raised your cables last 48 hrs. You may provide questions to Mexi interrogators but we do not want any Americans to confront Silvia or be in contact with her. Advise results interrogation.

"KUBARK" is not explained. It seems to refer to the station or the Embassy or a part of either. For the first time headquarters, not the station, seems to notice an inconsistency in what Alvarada Ugarte said. Then, with headquarters leaving a record that represents that it did the checking that in fact the FBI did and then dumped on the CIA, the unlikelihood of Oswald being in Mexico City the day after he ~~was~~ applied for his unemployment insurance only to return to New Orleans to dead-beat his landlord and leave again on the 25th is given to the Mexico City station. Along with ^{of} this it got the landlady's opinion that ^{Oswald} he "was there continuously" for the intervening days, including the one Alvarada Ugarte says he saw ^{Oswald} in the Cuban embassy get paid off by the red-headed black. And at last it ^{claiming} ~~seems~~ on these CO7s that "ALVARADO is fabricating."

^{who would} ~~Who~~ ^{maybe} ~~think~~ it, nice, serious, polite and cooperative young man that he is?

The report that Duren was about the ship to Cuba is later shown to be false. 211A

Before ~~had~~ CIA headquarters started ^{the station} trying to cool its station off, it ~~was~~ told to

use its own judgement on ~~a~~ questioning Alvarado Ugarte's supposed superior in that intelligence service and ~~that~~ ^{send} headquarters the translator resume of the intercepted

phone conversation between the Cuban president and his ambassador. Then, still all that same day, the detailed account of how much thicker and acceptably to the CIA's Mexico station ^{also made by arte} laid it on. This is through Number 124:

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MEXI 7098 (Ref: MEXI 7069 - para 96 above) Two Station officers interviewed ALVARADO in safehouse again night 26 Nov with following results: Subj story remained substantially same as in ref. Subj recognized photos of Cub Emb personnel Silvia DURAN, Francisco LLAGOSTERA, ORESTES Ruiz, Samuel PEREZ, Rogelio RODRIGUEZ, Raul APARICIO, Rolando ESTEVA, Heberto JORRIN, Oscar CONCEPCION, Antonio GARCIA, Jose FERNANDEZ Roa, Andres ARMONA, Joaquin HERNANDEZ Armas, "Raul", Pereguina ALONSO, Luisa CALDERON, and Alfredo MIRABAL. Did not know names of any but knew by sight and gave partial descriptions such as duties, height, skin coloring, condition of teeth, disposition, accent, etc., not discernable from phonos/ Identified photo of Oscar CONCEPCION Mendoza as tall Cuban of para 9 ref and photo of Luisa CALDERON as pretty girl of para 12 ref. Quickly identified New Orleans mug shot of OSWALD supplied by [redacted]. Said was positive of these identifications. (Note [redacted] reveals CALDERON planning move into Cub Emb 25 Nov.) Said OSWALD had green passport in pocket and Subj believes he saw pistol in shoulder holster. Said OSWALD wore long shoes and had wrist watch with yellow metal band. Described how OSWALD slouched in chair in Consulate waiting room about noon 18 Sept, seemed to be at home, appeared to know and be known by consulate personnel. Said he heard OSWALD use Mexi slang expression "Cabron", badly pronounced./ Subj reenacted conversation and money-passing scene of para 10 and 11 ref using Station officers as "props". Conversation essentially same as ref except had OSWALD use word "kill" in first reply to negro; hence "You're not the man. I can kill him." Said U.S. banknotes were in small pack, about quarter inch thick at most with paper band which negro broke before counting out fifty hundred dollars for extra expenses and five thousand dollars as "advance"./ Subj said he still sergeant Nic guardia civil. Entered Mexico illegally without travel documents 29 Aug paying bribe at border having transited Honduras, Salvador and Guatemala en route. Entered Mexi on 1961 mission for secret service after contrived escape from false arrest in Nic followed by period of asylum in Mexi Emb. Said rec'd training at Fort Gullick, Canal Zone, in March 1956 (Note Subj only 16 yrs old at that time)./ Subj says he has been to Cub Consulate on 2 or 3 Sept, 15 or 16 Sept, 18 Sept, 19 Sept, 26 Sept and 25 Nov. Station photo coverage of Cub Emb did not include consulate gate until Oct, Subj not identified on photos of persons using Emb gate. Subj admits visiting Sovemb 6 or 7 times, about 4 times with TORRES. Is somewhat fuzzy on reasons for these visits, was not pressed for detail at this session. Subj has not been identified in photo coverage Sovemb./ix Subj given 500 pesos to enable him move out of present quarters to hotel or rooming house elsewhere in Mexi for next few days. Signed receipt in true name. / Subj appears completely cooperative. Showing some signs of fearing for safety.

not seen days
MEXI sent this after headquarters had and gave it "reason to believe ALVARADO

is fabricating." Mann did not give up, either, because his, except for a citation message, his is next, Number 126. And ~~so~~ did he want to pour high-test on the fire with his concept of how diplomats are treated, all based on this fabrication he refused to consider was just that, a fabrication:

*1 page
memo*

MEXI 7104 'Amb Mann asks that following be passed to Sec. Rusk. He presumes KUBARK and [redacted] will be advised. Since my cable of yesterday (MEXI 7072 - para 97 above) there have been three principal developments: 1) Amb HERNANDEZ Armas at 1839 hrs last evening called DORTICOS of Cuba. In this conversation, which like the first is taped, DORTICOS expressed continued concern over possibility that Mexi police had interrogated Silvia about money. 2) ALVARADO, the Nic, was questioned by CAS officer until two a.m. this morning. This officer was impressed by ALVARADO who has offered make himself available as a witness and who is now hiding in place provided by CAS. We cannot guarantee ALVARADO's safety. Wealth of detail ALVARADO gives about events and personalities involved with OSWALD in Cub Emb is striking. 3) At 1215 hrs Mexi time 27 Nov., CAS officer was advised by phone by ECHEVERRIA that he had rearrested Silvia today because he learned she was attempting to leave Mexi for Habana. However, Echeverria later told LEGAT that he had decided to rearrest Silvia to avoid any possibility she might escape to Cuba and later be unavailable as a witness. Since we had received no reply to yesterday's telegram (MEXI 7072 - para 97 above) we have not requested Mexi gov to take any action against Silvia except to maintain increased surveillance of her activities. Echeverria later denied to LEGAT that he had any specific concrete evidence that she was about to leave for Cuba. We do not now know which Echeverria statements are accurate. It is quite possible, and even probable, that contradictory statements made by Echeverria are explained by desire of GOM to play down importance of OSWALD visit here. Mexi line still is that OSWALD visit related solely to visa question. Consistent with this Echeverria stated to LEGAT that DORTICOS only interested in finding out whether Mexi authorities tried to pay a story from Silvia. This is obviously incorrect interpretation. Neither LOPEZ Mateor nor Echeverria know of ALVARADO's story. Pls note that according Echeverria Silvia is being taken to Attorney General's office to which Mexi press has easy access. Possibility of habeas corpus cannot be discounted. 4) We have as yet found no trace of the red headed Cub negro described by ALVARADO, but are continuing our search for him. 5) In addition to questions raised in yesterday's telegram Washington should urgently consider feasibility of requesting Mexi authorities to arrest for interrogation; Eusebio AZCUE; Luisa CALDERON and Alfredo MIRABAL. The two men are Cuban nationals and Cuban consular officers. Luisa CALDERON is a secretary in Cuban consulate here. In this connection article II of Consular Convention between U. S. and Mexi exempts from arrest "Consular officers, national of the state by which they are appointed, and not engaged in any private occupation for gain" except "when charged with the commission of an act designated by local legislation as crimes other than misdemeanor and subjecting the individual guilty thereof to punishment by imprisonment." We are checking to see whether all of these individuals are on current consular list. Even assuming they are, and assuming also that Cuban-Mexican consular convention is similar to ours, they would all seem to be subject to arrest, provided Mexican law defines their apparent conspiracy with OSWALD as a crime and not a misdemeanor. They may all quickly be returned to Habana in order to eliminate any possibility that Mexi Gov could use them as witnesses. We know that AZCUE went to Habana on 19 Nov and we are not now certain that he or others are in Mexi at present time. 6) While I realize enormous difficulty in giving us instructions, I

PAGE 2
COPY 11

If hotshot Mann knew nothing other than that Alvarado Ugarte identified himself as with Dictator Samoza's Nicaraguan intelligence serve because of the long-time enmity between Samoza, with his reputation, and Castro, he should have give this a little thought. But this also was sent. albeit the same day, after the alert about fabrication from Headquarters. And then he wanted to rush it to this unprecedented action with no proof at all.

Nevertheless feel obliged to point out again that time is of the essence here. Mann

Nor did the station give up, as Number 128 reflects:

MEXI 7107 (REF: A. DIR 85178 - para 118 above; B. DIR 85797 - para 122 above; C. CIR 85258 - para 120 above) - 1) ALVARADO story after two installments tends prove that he has been in Cub Emb and knows some of employees by sight name or both. Nothing more. 2) To resolve doubt only effective way is to have cooperation of MAJOR JEREZ directed by his Hqs in interrogating ALVARADO. If Hqs agree, suggest he be cable urgently to cooperate without question with [redacted] officer who will contact him morning 28 Nov. Station wishes JEREZ be present during interrogation to throw all Nic official weight behind it, but not to participate except in portions relative ALVARADO's alleged mission for JEREZ. 3) Station concedes outside possibility this story could be SOMOZA gambit get rid of CASTRO so defer to Hqs re action para 2.

p.m. - The next day, in number 148

By 12:30 Mexico City time, Mann is trying to explain himself after getting telegram from State not in this file. He is a bitter-ended, still not giving up or recognizing what is long past questioning and should have been questioned and doubted to begin with:

STATE TELEGRAM SENT SECSTATE 1201 FLASH (Roger Channel) For Sec Rusk and Alexis Johnson: Amb. Mann's telegram says Many thanks for your telegram 961 (not in file). Perhaps I should describe briefly the background for my recommendations on the OSWALD case. 1. In reading OSWALD's rather complete dossier... etc., etc.... I therefore request soonest instructions on following specific points: a) Mexicans must be told immediately whether we want them to continue with investigation. b) Mexicans are pressing us for immediate agreement that DURAN should be turned loose but kept under surveillance. What shall we say? Request immediate answer to this specific question. c) If ALVARADO is not to be turned over to Mexicans what do we do with him? Shall we send him to the States for interrogation? Shall Embassy give him polygraph test here? Or shall we do something else and if so what?

Telling him where to go is did not occur to Mann.

Then there is this gentlemanly bit, after getting the Mexicans to arrest Duran, w who had not ~~not~~ ^{done} a thing that was wrong or ~~improper~~ ^{improper}, and then, after they beat her up and cost her her job, getting them to arrest her and her husband again, headquarters wants to arrange for the Mexican to take the blame for what they got the Mexicans to do. What also violated the usual diplomatic protocol and damages relations between countries, inspires enmity and looks very bad in Latin America in particular.

DIR 85371 (Ref: DIR 85318 - not in file, not abstracted) To be certain there is no misunderstanding between us, we want to insure that neither Silvia DURAN nor Cubans get impression that Americans behind her re-arrest. In other words, we want Mexi authorities to take responsibility for whole affair.

The very next item is more pointed about Mann. In the xeroxing part of the last line of page 31 of this lengthy record was not included. As best I can make those words out they are in within parenthesis:

DIR 85469 (Ref: MEXI 7104 - para 126 above) Ref being passed to [redacted] and [redacted] per your request. Have discussed MEXI 7104 with Mr. Alexis Johnson. He wants Amb Mann to know that it not likely requested instructions will be forthcoming prior 28 Nov. On Wash end, [redacted] has jurisdiction. Both [redacted] and KUBARK attempting follow their wishes. For your private information, there ^{is a distinct feeling here in all the [redacted] that} ~~is a distinct feeling here in all the [redacted] that~~)

Amb is pushing this case too hard and that we could well create flap with Cubans which could have serious repercussions. Understand from Mr. Johnson that he sent telegram [redacted] channels to Amb this afternoon attempting to give him better perspective on this whole problem. We hope this will be of some assistance in reducing his pressures on you.

On November 29 they slacken off to
 Most of the next 34 items are on November 28^{and} 29¹,
 only seven, with three on the 30th. We skip the three before the last that follows, Number
 180. Because the CIA intertwines the Alvarado Ugarte and Duran messes it made we in-
 clude those related to the Duran travaille.

With the reminder that this is its self-portrayal by the world's supposedly largest,
 most sophisticated and far and away most generously subsidized intelligence agency.

~~And~~ with the remind of Hosty and his "bombshells" ,too.

"Flutter" in what follows is CIA for polygraph or so-called lie detector. How well
 it does that with the best operators is indicated.

"GOM" seems to represent the Government of Mexico.

All redactions are by the CIA, and are indicated by that word. In context some seem
 to refer to the FBI.

The closest thing to an ^ydiplomacy in all of this irrational disgrace to the diplomatic and intelligence service and to common sense, attributing the station's ^ulusty support of Mann to his pressure on it is that.

There were the "serious repercussions" that were anticipated, between Mexico and protesting Cuba. Which Mann wanted to make even worse by ^uarresting Cuban diplomats who also had not ^{done} a single thing that was in any way wrong or improper.

In Number ~~14~~ 142 of the same day headquarters ^{ex/} expressed confidence ⁱⁿ that "ALVARADO as fabricator" but that did not back its station off, as the next number of the same day shows:

*1 space
indiv*

DIR 85653 - [redacted] says their follow-up investigation of OSWALD's activities has produced "reliable indications" that he was in New Orleans on 19 Sept 63. This, coupled with earlier evidence that he was in New Orleans applying for unemployment insurance on 17 Sept means OSWALD would have had to fly to Mexi and back between 17 and 19 Sept in order to be at Cub Emb getting his pay off, as ALVARADO claims, on 18 Sept. With this added info, believe Mexi can confidently regard ALVARADO as fabricator and ^utator interrogation accordingly. Perhaps he might respond to suggestion that he has ^{been} having delusions and needs psychiatric treatment.

So, straws are plentiful in Mexico and the CIA's station grasped one after another. These are the next six ^{215A here} ~~this is the next item, Number 143, of that same day:~~

*on
space
indiv*

DIR 85654 - We have just heard by phone from [redacted] who is at home, that Mexi evaluation of ALVARADO story may have been seriously warped by a piece of misinformation which has crept into this case. From conversations with your officer, [redacted] has one impression that they believe there is other evidence that OSWALD made a bank deposit of 5,000 dollars in the U.S. after he got back from Mexi on 3 Oct. This would tend, if true, to corroborate ALVARADO's story that he saw OSWALD get 5,000 for the job and 1,500 for expenses. [redacted] thinks he heard that CURTIS got the info about the bank deposit from an [redacted] man named Clark. We know of no such bank deposit. [redacted] here has just affirmed they never heard this story. The story of the deposit of 5,000 dollars is therefore almost certainly erroneous. Pls check it with [redacted] there. We have advised [redacted] that this rumor exists in Mexico. We can readily see how this piece of misinformation would mislead you. Pls do not assume this Hqs is in possession of all facts known to [redacted] or the Dallas police or any other body. [redacted] has just levied on us official request for full info on source and origin of rumor about 5,000 dollar bank deposit. Pls reply immediate.

DIR 85655 (Ref: DIR 85469 - Para 141 above) To supplement our position as outlined in ref, we wish to stress there should be no let down in your effort to follow all leads and investigate all facts which bear on this case. We have by no means excluded possibility that other as yet unknown persons may have been involved or even that other powers may have played a role. Pls continue all coverage of Sov and Cub installations [redacted]

4613 (Refs: A. DIR 85616 - not in file, not abstracted; B. MEXI 7107 - para 128 above) requested [redacted] cooperation Mexi thru Major JEREZ and if possible by sending [redacted] Mexi. [redacted] said ALVARADO in Mexi without [redacted] authority and passed off suggestion use JEREZ but agreed immediately send [redacted] agreed pay [redacted] expenses. He now in process getting visa and plane reservations and will probably be in Mexi today unless Hqs and Mexi wish cancel. Even though his story re OSWALD may be false it possible he has been working other angle penetrating Cuban [redacted]

been waiting other angle penetrating Cuban (about tight words removed off)

215A here

facts straight. In spite Mexi 7113 (not in file, not abstracted) believe it of value
travel Mexi and contact Station officer this case. Advise flash.

*Wikeno
Suzie
paa*

DIR 85661 (Ref: MEXI 7113 - not in file, not abstracted; MANA 4613- Para 145 above)
Do not turn ALVARADO over to the Mexicans. We have officially asked [redacted] for their
position on this move, and pending [redacted] answer and our final consideration, ALVARADO
should not be surfaced to Mexicans or turned over to them. / Advise us if [redacted] in Mexi
attempts to get you to act one way or the other on the question of turning ALVARADO
over to the Mexicans. / Pls note complicating factor [redacted] that ALVARADO may be a Nic agent
too. [redacted] pls advise its views. We agree [redacted] should go Mexi and be reachable
at Nic Emb to be at Mexi disposal. / For Mexi: Note [redacted] man Larry Keenan now in Mexi
was sent especially to follow up leads on entire assassination. Pls cooperate with him fully.

DIR 85663 - [redacted] officer officially advises that [redacted] requests that KUBARK
turn ALVARADO over to Mexican authorities and that KUBARK request Mexican authorities to
interrogate ALVARADO in detail. / [redacted] reports that it understand that Mexi authorities
have a capability of polygraphing and requests that KUBARK request Mexi authorities that he
be polygraphed. / [redacted] expressed desire to have the results of the interrogation as soon
as possible and that the Legal Attache be kept advised of developments. / [redacted] takes
the position that inasmuch as Silvia DURAN may be released sometime today (28 Nov) according
to info which [redacted] has from LEGAT, ALVARADO should be turned over to Mexicans as soon as
possible, so that their stories can be checked against each other. / Mexi Station is
instructed to carry out [redacted]s requests set out above. Give full cooperation to the
LEGAT. This turnover is made without prejudice to KUBARK's future role in this case.
Whether we ever resume direct contact with ALVARADO will be decided on its merits when
the issue arises.

[redacted] 4614 - (Ref: MEXI 7117 - not in file of OSWALD, but in ALVARADO P-8639 as follows:
Delighted have [redacted]. Have him call 46-94-00, x-250 and ask for Mr. Daniels,
identifying self as Alberto SUAREZ. Meeting will take place lobby Plaza Hotel corner
Insurgentes Norte and Sullivan just off Paseo Reforma. Time will be set by phone. If
he should be able arrive 28 Nov. give him number 2029624 and ask for Sr. David. Pls
furnish identifying data. / If KUBARK interrogation in [redacted] presence unsatisfactory retain
alternative of turnover to GOM.) [redacted] (IEN) arriving Mexi Tac a flt 400, 0945
29 Nov. Will make contact per ref. Have suggested he stay either hotel Geneve or Reforma
to facilitate reverse contact if desired by Mexi. / [redacted] have been told only
that ALVARADO appears have some info bearing on OSWALD. / [redacted] speaks English, cooperates
very closely with [redacted]. He knows ALVARADO very well and knows all details his past
activities within FLN and his work for [redacted] will follow Mexi leads re interroga-
tion. Will probably send open code answer to [redacted] thru his Emb so best suggest he send
messages thru our channels for security and [redacted] will relay to [redacted]. DIR 85663 (para 147
above) just received. Believe best not change travel plans [redacted]. Suggest advisability Mexi
discuss with [redacted] withholding turnover to Mexi authorities until [redacted] Star arrival [redacted]

*with [redacted] withholding turnover to mexi authorities until after arrival (abstract). He
(redacted) [redacted] (government of Nicaragua)*

much more likely solve riddle than LCLUTIER, especially view GOM/power control his future.

[redacted] 4615 (Ref: [redacted] 4614 - para 148 above) - IEN [redacted]
Born Managua [redacted] Brown hair, green eyes, 5'8", weight 170 lbs. [redacted] is
captain [redacted] chief [redacted] office of national security.

[redacted] 4617 - Pls inform [redacted] soonest whether or not still desirable [redacted] travel.
If not request permission inform [redacted] ALVARADO in hands Mexi authorities.

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DIR 85616 - In the face of mounting evidence that ALVARADO is fabricating his story of
seeing OSWALD take money in Cub Emb, urge you follow up with his local NIC case officer and
avail yourself of the help of the Nic service, which can send [redacted]
[redacted] to help in interrogation. We find it incredible that the Cubans would
brief and pay an assassin in front of a Nic interloper. We think it possible or even
likely that he has been in and out of Cub Emb as a Nic agent trying to infiltrate cuba
and has picked up names and faces there in so doing. All he has said about OSWALD he could
have gotten from the press, except for certain incorrect items such as his statement that
OSWALD wore glasses. / The fact that ALVARADO is a calm, nice and intelligent young man
does not mean he is not fabricator. FYI we and other agencies are being flooded by
fabrications on the OSWALD case from several continents some originating with people on the
fringes of the intelligence business. Such fabrications are not usually done for money,
but out of sickly fancy and a desire to get into the intel game. / We do not think it a
remarkable coincidence that both DORTICOS and ALVARADO talk about money paid to OSWALD.
For one thing, pay for an assassin is a factor which immediately rises in the mind of
expert and layman alike. Secondly, DORTICOS may have heard through some Russian or Cuban
source in the Mexi government that DURAN was asked whether the Cubans paid OSWALD for the
alleged assignment. / While we do not insist that ALVARADO's story is beyond all belief

After 150 of these exchanges, in the 151th, on November 28, CIA headquarters finally tells its Mexico City station what should have occurred to a reasonable intelligent child that Alvarado Ugarte's story is inherently incredible, the word headquarters uses.

The home office of the world's largest and best-financed spookery could not have seen that to begin with and then said something about it? It has spooks running all around the world and trying to run some of it at the same time and they did not have the ordinary, every-day common sense to see this? Or at least wonder about it.

Fortunately the world had only one Brooklyn Bridge or they'd have bought them all:

Where the CIA can attribute ~~to~~ a bum steer to the FBI it finally not only mentions it but gives the name of its chief!

In WEXI 7118 that follows it appears that Curtis is a CIA agent in Mexico City and that the Mexican police are keeping in custody someone whose name has the same number of letters as Alvarado.

*Ident
space*

we do urge that Mexi place it and ALVARADO under the most searching scrutiny. His interrogators must probe deeply into his make-up and lead him back through the thought processes which may have led him to make this possible step. In securing confessions of fabrication, a sympathetic attitude, stressing awareness of the severe mental strain the subject must be under, and with generous recognition of his "basically fine motivation" coupled with promises of face-saving secrecy, and even specious hopes of "useful" future cooperation are often effective. ~~Hours~~ Hours must be devoted to these tactics. Have just received Mexi 7107 - para 128 above - Concur that ~~lend~~ lend all assistance and induce Nic service to cooperate. Think there is just no possibility that this is a Nic frame-up, but hope Nic cooperation will prove helpful.

MEXI 7113 (Ref: DIR 85653 - Para 142 above) Request OPIM authorization turn ALVARADO over to ~~with~~ with brief explanation he claims to be witness to payoff to OSWALD in Cuban Consulate 18 Sept., admits is in Mexi illegally, admits CP membership, visits to Sovemb, claims that Cuban Con now involved in documenting him with false Mexi papers for travel to Cuba. Letter point alone would give Mexi authorities good reason to subject him to *Mexi authorities good reason to subject subject him to*

detailed interrogation. / With Hqs approval of turn-over Station would plan no further contact with ALVARADO.

MEXI 7114 (Ref: DIR 85654 - para 143 above) Mr. Clark Anderson, LEGAT, told COS and Amb Mann of rumor that "OSWALD had deposited five thousand dollars in a bank in the U. S." / On 27 Nov. Amb in presence COS asked Anderson about this again and Anderson said rumor was on T.V. and radio in Mexi. Anderson said he had no info from his Hqs to confirm or deny this. He said he would check his Hqs. / COS has not heard rumor but feels sure Anderson or some of his office did hear this. This Station had no additional info concerning this but now assumes ALVARADO may have heard same radio or T.V. report and thus have had "basis" for 5,000 dollar payment.

MEXI 7115 ~~reported~~ reported 27 Nov after Silvia DURAN first arrest was public knowledge that there great deal discussion of this in Emb. She back in office 25 Nov and seemed quite pleased with her performance. Her account interrogation contained little new except police had threatened her with extradition to U. S. to face OSWALD. She had no fear of confrontation. ~~said~~ said there almost no discussion ~~meeting~~ meeting 23 Nov very short and somber with general impression being one of shock and disbelief. Heard no expressions of pleasure. ~~seen~~ seen night 27 Nov had nothing to add to above. Indeed ~~version~~ version much less detailed. Neither ~~or~~ or had any personal knowledge OSWALD presence Cub Emb at any time.

MEXI 7117 (see para 148 above) (Ref: ~~4613~~ 4613 - para 145 above)

MEXI 7118 (Ref: DIR 85371 - para 141 above) Note second pickup which made on GOM initiative without prior consultation with Station or ~~obviously~~ obviously evidence great desire Mexi authorities to be of service. Immediately after pickup ~~had~~ had received instructions from ~~personally~~ personally not to release DURAN until CURTIS said so. At Hqs request CURTIS furnished interrogation questions to Echeverria night 27 Nov. In view ref felt no alternative but inform Echeverria neither CURTIS nor ~~making~~ making official request for her continued detention. Decision re release must be theirs. This was done at 1200 noon on 28 Nov.

MEXI 7119 (Ref: DIR 85245 - para 132 above) Have furnished LEGAT all pertinent info from ~~on~~ on OSWALD case, including brief memo dated 16 Oct 63 on OSWALD's contacts with the Sovemb. / In all cases have put statement "This info from confidential source. It must not be disseminated, etc." / On 27 Nov COS talked with LEGAT and made following points: A. We wished him cite KUBARK as the source of all info he receives from this Station and sent to his Hqs. B. We require that no distribution of KUBARK info be made outside LEGAT's office without prior clearance with KUBARK Hqs. C. A great deal of our info as he knows, comes from sensitive, and some of from ~~and~~ and all of these sensitive operations have taken years, much work and many dollars to build. We therefore require careful control of this info. / LEGAT insists that he had in all cases

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C.

Host that in what follows the ~~CIA~~ CIA says that Duran and Alvarado were "implicated" without saying in what. The implication is in the assassination and that is 100% without truth or even rational suspicion. This is ~~reporting~~ ^{any kind of} but factual reporting, but if that standard were to be altered to none of this sick stuff would exist.

*ndw
space*

cited KUBARK as the source and put the control statement on our info. He says however, that he has no control over his Hqs and their distribution of KUBARK or any other info. / Also, FYI LEGAT believes Justice Dept (outside his organization) taking actions and not under control LEGAT's Hqs.

MEXI 7120 - Believe useful have Spanish speaking LCFLUTTER operator available Mexi certainly for ALVARADO and possibly for others. If Hqs agrees pls arrange soonest and advise.

MEXI 7124 (REF: DIR 85663 - para 147 above) COS in contact with Echeverria at 1430 hours and Echeverria grateful that ALVARADO being turned over to gobernacion. / Echeverria was given ALVARADO's ~~pp~~ present address and alias under which he registered. Mexicans will pick him up and question him on basis of very brief story given Echeverria by COS. / Echeverria advises that unless significant developments from present interrogation of Silvia DURAN (based upon questions furnished by COS 27 Nov) or from interrogation of ALVARADO, DURAN will be released during night 28 Nov or early morning 29 Nov. / Echeverria advised COS that Mexi Gov had refused to accept "muy grosero" (very rude) note of protest handed to Amb BOSQUES in Habana yesterday by Raul ROA, Cub foreign minister. / Will advise any results that become available from Mexi interrogation of ALVARADO.

DIR 85667 (Ref: MEXI 7120 - para 158 above) No fluent Spanish speaking flutter man available at all. For reasons of security and compartmentation, prefer not to have KUBARK operator double tracked with Mexi operator. / Would only confuse case. Prefer wait until all Mexi resources exhausted before we decide if we want to resume management of case, including LCFLUTTER. / Seasoned operators available here on short notice.

Memo to LEGAT from COS, Subject: Gilberto Nolasco ALVARADO Ugarte; On the morning of 26 Nov an officer of this Section, accompanied by Mr. Elambeck of the Security Office, interviewed Subj in a parked car on the south edge of the city. The following statements, unless otherwise noted, are those of the Subject: ~~etc~~ etc. (Complete info on ALVARADO up to time of his arrest on 28 Nov.)

~~22545~~ - Attached is a reel of tape containing three conversations reported in ref (MEXI 7068 - para 95 above).

Unsigned letter to Mr. Mann (probably Crackpot) naming people and places in the OSWALD case.

MEXI 7125 (Ref: DIR 85672 - Pls continue to keep us filled in on status of interrogations of Silvia DURAN, ALVARADO, and others implicated as fast as you can get info. We have no other ready source of info on these cases. Request you utilize capable officer ~~to~~ to skim off details and relay them to your office for cabling to us at regular intervals. Request status report, even negative, by 0900 hrs. Be sure to keep us informed of what info if any is leaked to public information media there.) Echeverria advised ~~etc~~

and illegible

hrs on 28 Nov. / DURAN is under close surveillance and will be apprehended any time info received to warrant. She still appears to Mexicans to have been involved only in business of possible Cub and Sov visas for OSWALD. / Will report soonest on ALVARADO interrogation.

MEXI 7126 (Ref: A. MEXI 7125 - Para 164 above B. DIR 85672 - para 164 above) ~~with whom~~ and COS dealing directly at suggestion of Echeverria will keep us advised of interrogation of ALVARADO as it progresses. / ~~states~~ states that his first oral report will be ready at 1100 hrs on 29 Nov. / ~~will be~~ will be in direct contact with ~~at that time~~ at that time and COS will send data as soon as obtained. / COS is handling case since ~~and~~ and ~~involved~~ involved and need to see ~~and~~ ECHEVARRIA and others (no one of whom speaks English). Also continuous Liaison with Amb and ~~necessary~~ necessary and COS wishes control these personally.

MEXI 7127 - ~~reported~~ reported at 1130 hrs that ALVARADO claims that he present inside Cub Emb when OSWALD given 6,500 dollars. Same story given Mexicans as ALVARADO gave Station. One difference is that ALVARADO failed identify Silvia DURAN from several photos ~~showed~~ showed him. With Station officer ALVARADO did identify her. / Interrogation continues. ALVARADO has up to now been "suave" and friendly. Now ~~states~~ states he is tougher. / ALVARADO has also claimed he here in 1961 on mission for Nic service and gives same story re present visit as he gave Station (namely, he awaiting documentation as a Mexi to be furnished him by Cub authorities for a training mission in sabotage, to Cuba). / Above brief and preliminary ~~doubts~~ "doubts" story and will begin work to "break" ALVARADO. / Will await contact by ~~and~~ and, if he wishes to do so, will have ~~call~~ call him at his hotel and let him participate. Feel sure ~~would~~ would welcome this. / Above given orally to LEGAT.

*incident
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218B

The CIA's use of the word "still" is ambiguous. What it is really saying ~~is~~ is that despite all it had made up and believed about Duran the ^{particular} ~~mexican~~ do not believe it and she persists in saying that she was doing and had done ^{nothing} ~~nothing~~ other than what in her job she is supposed to do. In spite of ~~it~~ "going the limit" with her, and we do know this means beating her up, ~~she~~ she has admitted doing nothing other than what she was hired by the Cubans to do, of a clerical nature only. There never was any reason at ~~all~~ all, not even in what Alvarado Ugarte made up, even to suspect ~~anything~~ anything else. There was nothing in ~~the~~ what she said that was ^{mean} picked up by the CIA's ~~bugging~~ bugging of the Cuban installation that justified any suspicion about her. In spite of all, this can also be taken to ~~mean~~ mean - there being nothing to that ~~at all~~ at all - the Mexican police "still" believe that Duran told the truth. Even after they manhandled her, beat her up. That there was no basis for its suspicion and that there was no rational reason for the abuse of her by the Mexican police at the CIA's insistence are the realities the CIA "still" will not face.

Here it seems to be without question that the FBI's Mexico City office is being referred to. Perhaps by some code name the CIA wants to keep secret. It seems to be of six spaces. Legat is only five spaces. What need, certainly only an imagined need, there is to ~~to be~~ ^{keep this secret,} ~~reduct~~ this reference to the FBI is not apparent.

In what follows the redacted name appears to be that of a Mexican police official. The CIA describes him as "very intelligent." It then says that after listening to Alvarado Ugarte the first session he believed ALVARADO story a fantastic lie." Should not the CIA have had that much intelligence or perception? In truth the story is that fantastic, with no creditability at all, yet ~~and~~ after all of ~~the~~ ^{this} the CIA still has not abandoned it.

They are still in the second ~~item~~ seeking ways to "elicit" information from a faker. They actually reflect the belief that some "tactics" headquarters can recommend will do that!

Wanted
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219A

MEXI 7128 (Ref: DIR 85712 - Time is of essence in reporting what the Mexicans are learning from ALVARADO and Silvia DURAN. Up to now, we have been re-writing and relaying every- thing you report over to [redacted] Hqs which results in some unavoidable delay. We would like to be sure that you are immediately giving [redacted] there everything you get about ALVARADO and DURAN so [redacted] Mexi can cable the same data direct to [redacted] Hqs. Pls satisfy your- self that [redacted] there has adequate commo facilities and secretarial staff to keep its. Hqs informed as fast as you keep us informed, and advise us on this. / If you find that [redacted] there does not have adequate commo or staff and wants to rely on us to relay the material, they may of course send messages right through our channels, or you can rely on us to relay the info as we have been. / In any case, be sure you indicate on all cables whether [redacted] Mexi has been given the same info.) [redacted] is locally being advised by COS personally of everything Station learns concerning OSWALD case and, now, on ALVARADO interro- gation. / Feel sure [redacted] office, which almost same size as KUBARK station, has adequate staff for reporting needs. / Usual procedure here is that COS notifies Hqs, reports to chief [redacted] and to Amb orally then subsequently advises [redacted] by memo. / Hqs is assured that all info known to Station on these cases is being given to them and shortly after info obtained

PAGE 3

1170 obtained

Cases being given

MEXI 7137 (Ref; MEXI 7068 - para 95 above - MEXI 7097 - para 123 above) Copy of [redacted] tapes of conversations references pouched 29 Nov by RYBAT pouch HMTA 22545.

DIR 85669 (REF: [redacted] 4617 - para 150 above) - Feel [redacted] should go Mexi even though ALVARADO may be in Mexi hands. Assume he can be used as consultant at least, that he will know whether he can and should contact Mexi authorities, and that Mexi will clear any active use we make of him with the [redacted] rep. [redacted] here knows he is coming to Mexi to help. / At 1830 Wash time, which is about 1630 your time, we have no further news or requests. We are going home but can be back and on the wire on short notice.

DIR 85672 (see para 165 above)

MEXI 7156 (Ref MEXI 7127 - Para 166 above) [redacted], who is very intelligent officer, had talked personally to ALVARADO twice. He saw him for one hour morning of 29 Nov, then for some three hrs afternoon 29 Nov. / [redacted] states that after first session he believed ALVARADO story a fantastic lie; after second session and all previous and interim interro- gations; ALVARADO sticks to same story re OSWALD. [redacted] states, "Although this still preliminary, either ALVARADO is telling truth essentially or is the best liar I have talked to in my many years, and I have talked to some of the biggest." [redacted] "inclined" believe ALVARADO telling truth in general outline; but believes he mixed up on dates. [redacted] arrived in Mexi. Is now at Geneve Hotel. Will be seen at 1800 hrs. If he willing participate, will get [redacted] to contact [redacted] immediately. / Contents of paras one and two (except for identity of source) have been given orally to chief [redacted] and to chief [redacted] by COS. Source was described as "Mexican official."

MEXI 7160 - As Hqs aware, [redacted] have not had meetings with Sovs since assassination. This principally due fact that prior 22 Nov the Sovs scheduled future sessions for period [redacted] beginning circa 1 Dec; also due factor that [redacted] out of touch with Sov C/O and that another [redacted] out of country...etc., etc. / Request instructions on what tactic or elicitation effort if any that [redacted] should make. / Also request similar instructions re Station's Sov access [redacted] agents [redacted] and [redacted] may also have opportunity meet Sovs if Station wants.

Memo to LEGAT from COS, Subject: Silvia Tirado de DURAN - Attached is a copy of a 10 page statement of info obtained by Gobernacion during the first detention of Subj. #5975

DIR 85712 (Ref Dir 85672 - para 165 above) see para 167 above

DIR 86012 (Ref: MEXI 7160 - para 172 above) [redacted] obviously cannot direct pointed question to C/O's but should be alert to and report any comments on case. Perhaps can provoke discussion in innocuous questions as to general effect events expected to have on international relations. / In instructing agents station should not of course make any ref to OSWALD/DURAN/ALVARADO et al. Or to investigative measures being taken.

219A

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MEXI 7168 (Ref: MEXI 7156 - para 171 above) [redacted] met evening 29 Nov "unofficially" and [redacted] reported on ALVARADO's background. He told [redacted] that ALVARADO had been "seventy five percent accurate" in his reporting and had had access and furnished good info on Communism in past. He said, however, that ALVARADO inclined "go off on his own" at times and impossible control. / At 1030 hours on 30 Nov [redacted] reported to COS that ALVARADO has signed a statement baying that his story of seeing OSWALD inside Cub Emb is completely false. He also stated that he had not seen anyone handed money by Cub Con officers. He said too that he had not called the U. S. Emb (as previously claimed) on 20 Sept to warn them. He said his first call to the U. S. Emb was on 25 Nov the evening he saw the U.S. Emb Security officer. / ALVARADO still claims that the remainder of his story, the parts about visits to the Cub Con and plans for his (false) documentation as a Mexi and plans to go to Cuba for sabotage training are true. [redacted] still inclined believe these portions of story. / ALVARADO stated his motive was to try to get the U.S.A. to take action against Fidel CASTRO. He states he hates CASTRO passionately and thought his presentation, if he could have his story believed, would help to make the U.S.A. take forceful action against CASTRO. / [redacted] being informed of above

omit use * * * *

Police #09 reports to the Chief of Co. 8 the following: Here in front of the Cuban Embassy just how was a group of 35 or 40 persons carrying signs and we were able to take one away - the others got away. We have a photographer detained here with the patrol." The Lieutenant asks what photographer he is talking about. #09 says it he is the same as the others in the group. The Lieutenant insists and asks if he (the photographer) is from the press or from where and what will the police do with him. #09 does not know but he will investigate.

Amb HERNANDEZ Armas calls Subsecretary GOROTIZA and says the following: "Pardon me for bother ring you but I want you to know what has happened..." The Amb reports about the demonstration of para 177 above and getting to the point, requests that GOROTIZA try not to have anything published in the press, nor pictures published...

omit single page

DIR 86064 (Ref: MEXI 7168 - para 176 above) White House, [redacted] and [redacted] here all advised ALVARADO confessed he fabricated his story. Pls give [redacted] our official thanks. / Because the resolution of this case will be closely scrutinized in the up-coming review of this entire episode, pls ascertain and cable details of how the confession was obtained what threats, promises, inducements, and tactics were used by [redacted] Was ALVARADO physically mistreated? Much? Pls learn whether ALVARADO actually did hear the false radio report about OSWALD's making a 5,000 dolllar bank deposit and use that in his story. [redacted] and MEXI pls clarify with [redacted] and Nic military attache whether ALVARADO was still their agent when he visited Cuban Emb. Pls keep track of ALVARADO's whereabouts and urge the Nics not to do away with him. / Pls continue to follow all leads and tips. Question of whether OSWALD acted solely on his own has still not been finally resolved. Pls cable any results of second interrogation of Silvia DURAN when you get it.

What ^{is} this a far fair sample of the CIA and how it thinks and functions, is there any need to wonder why it has a ^{history} ~~career~~ of one intelligence failure after another and no real success of any actual significance. In truth some of its failures were its biggest successes because if it had not failed the consequences ^would have been much more serious. Conversely, what it regards as great successes were in fact disasters.

Going back to the overthrow of the nationalist and strongly-anti-Communist government ~~it overthrew~~ in Iran ^{to} and restored the deposed Shah - what gave the world the plague of extremist Khoumani-ism - out intelligence operations of the ^{dirty} ~~first~~'s trick species have hurt us and the world enormously. They came from the corruption of reality in the ^{my} omnipresent Cold War thinking that dominated all it did. If ^{the CIA} ~~it~~ imagine that something hurt the U.S.S.R., that was all the justification it needed ^{to} do what hurt us so much, made us so many enemies throughout the entire world.

This also illustrates why the CIA so determinedly insists it has to keep everything secret. It does keep secret from the people whose taxes finance it irrational, ^{what} often is insane ^{and} ~~the~~ ~~anties~~ what is not secret from the rest of the world's spooks. This is not for the national security. It is to protect the CIA from the just consequences of what it does. *That did not and does not serve the nation or its "security."*

This also illustrates that the CIA's claim it does not make policy is a lie. ^{In this Mexico City case} ~~here~~ it was very clearly making a policy for an attack on Cuba and that, in turn, could have led to a worldwide disaster unprecedented since life in any form first appeared ^{on} ~~it~~.

And this is what such vast fortunes are wasted on while real, and urgent needs cannot be met because the national treasure is piddled away in such disgraceful, such genuinely evil pursuits, pursuits of the Col War mentality that dominates the CIA and gets it ever increasing appropriations that come from the ~~un~~ unmet national needs for which those tax moneys could he have been ^{used.} ~~and be spent.~~

Without the possibility of starting World War III and with the possibility of ^{reducing the causes of} ~~eliminating~~ the war of crime that besieges the nation.

It was making policy with ^{its} ~~the~~ Mexico City insanities, as we see in its own words.

Whether or not the words of the David Atlee Phillips whose career was studded with such "successes" that were great disasters for others and for us. Like the overthrow of the democratically-elected government Guatemala that he and we replaced with the most murderous of military dictatorships to which in excess of 50,000 death and another casualties without number are credited.

The CIA made policy with its Bay of Pigs fiasco, with its plans, agreed to by the military, that held no possibility of success and with the expectation that to save the nation's face we would have to invade Cuba to atone for the certain military defeat at the Bay of Pigs. It made the United States the pigs at that bay, but it then had a different President. Its scheming began with the Eisenhower administration in which Richard Nixon was the White House's action officer on that project, But John Kennedy would not send Americans to fight and die and to kill innocent Cubans in Cuba.

It is worth recalling the criticisms of the CIA against which Phillips tried to defend it. They were criticisms of what the CIA actually did that it should not have done, what violated our laws and those of the lands it victimized. Like giving leadership and direction to the murderous Cuban-Chilean military that also ousted a democratically elected government. From that and other wrongs like that to its participation in the Nixonian Watergate scandals, that is what Phillips decided the CIA should be protected from and for which he accepted as members only those who agreed with his anti-American thinking.

Its and Phillips concept of Americanism does not come from George Washington's farewell address, from our Constitution or our laws or from basic American principals. He and the CIA and others like him in it are dedicated to this country as policeman to the world. In this role they seek to start wars, to overthrow governments, and as we see here in its own words, in getting friendly governments to bow to their pressure and do what is wrong to law, to justice and to individual people, like the innocent Silvia Duran.

And in that edge the world toward World War III, and end product of this outrageous Mexico City adventure had it not been aborted, beginning with the FBI.

21

The last words in EXMI 7168, although the CIA, knowing it, does not say ^{it}, is that if the CIA and Ambassador Mann had been ^listened to in Washington that ^{pubk} Alvarado Ugarte would have succeeded. His objection "was to try to get the U.S.A. to take action against Fidel ~~the~~ CASTRO. ...Forceful action..." Or, go ~~w~~ to war. Which is what this fantasy persuaded Mann was necessary and would have been inevitable if Washington had paid attention to him. *That could have started World War III and a nuclear holocaust*

But instead, with these his credentials, ^{President} Johnson promoted ^{Mann} ~~him~~ ^{his} to be undersecretary of state ~~of~~ for Latin America.

^{Mann} ~~Yet~~ having confessed he says he confession was ^{Alvarado Ugarte} coerced!

^{the CIA} And Mexico City is still heading him ^{asks it} ~~to~~ ^{Mexico City} Headquarters/ to "Pls learn whether"

the faker and liar did hear a ~~misheard~~ "radio report about OSWALD's ~~bank~~ making a \$5,000 bank deposit!"!!! Why ask anything of one who cannot be believed - about anything?

221 ~~HB~~ here -

Is it not to wonder whether those learned and experienced people at Langley can be trusted to go to the bathroom without assistance and ^{close} supervision?

extra single space

This is what Hosty was really talking about but he did not know enough about it to know that it was the exact opposite of the kind of "bombshell" he said he had.

Aside from telling us that Hosty's word cannot be taken for anything it tells us ^{irrationality} much, if not all, about the utter ^{insanity} and total lack of professionalism ^{of} of what the CIA was up to when its President was assassinated - that those grown and supposedly sophisticate ^d men were playing child's game ^{with} what was so very serious and in this childishness were deceiving and misleading Washington with what could have led to the war Alvarado Ugarte confessed was his motive for his fabrication, the war that Ambassador Mann pushed so hard to get started.

These 133 CIA summary pages ^{which} ~~that~~ are not complete when compared with the first ^{it} ~~the~~ ~~CIA's~~ released ~~of~~ two decades earlier, tell us yet more.