

11/23 Check w/ Box 57. . . .Arrest of Duran, Husband, and members of family. Duran held incommunicado. Her leftist background. Duran is the one who put Oswald in touch with Soviets. Mex. President "nterrogate forcefully" Box 57 (46)

Need to develop Duran in earlier paragraphs.

11/24 Duran to be released. See Mex. Trans of interrogation.

11/24 Duran believes cousin who disapproved of her(politics?) was responsible for her arrest. Need to see docs. on her politics from Mex. Police. She and Hubbie members of the Mex. CP.

Nov. 25th first mention of A and story.

Box 57 (73) Mex. Daily "Excelsior" has story of Oswald at Cuban embassy for Cuban visa. Nothing more. A gets all he needs from the press story.

Mann sends off to WH, FBI, SD Wants FBI on case. Legat thinks he is over the top on this. Hysterical. See Legat to FBIHQ 11/25 Early FBI. 11/25 Hoover says no to FBI rep. At MC. He will change tune 11/27; se also Doc. 6 Early FBI

When does A get in touch with US Embassy. Must be 11/25

25/26 CIA/ Mann fall for A story ----develop this. Do I develop it full bore here. With reports back to WDC, etc. White House. LBJ and commission formation; used to recruit Warren and Russell. ??????

Doc. # 8 CIA release to WH 11/26 relays A story of 9/18 \$\$ exchange
Need here to develop A background

Mann/CIA on A's bone fides----was he the soul of probity. Remind: they go ahead without basic checking of story. Was LHO in MC on 9/18. They have no reason to believe he was other than A's story.

How A was an accomplished liar; how he put his story together.

He also names S. Duran as one of the Cuban consulate members who saw the exchange. This will lead to her rearrest on Mann's request/orders to Mex. President.

Note too: O'Leary story about CIA source 72 hrs to get A story in Wash. Star. Source: AI file.

Subtheme to Red Plot: How to work in Kostikov/ "wet acts" Dept. 13. (Check with KGB book) LHO's 9 November letetr re: "Comrade Kostin" reference.,

The Red Plot and LBJ. How he used to recruit Warren/Russell (see Eisenberg memo. Also review Willens. Check with LBJ folder and Red Plot

or ~~Do I point out why A story should have been checked~~

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More on Mann/CIA buying into A's story:

Nov 26th

Box 57 (96) Mex. Station A is a "serious guy" place great store in him; soul of probity. A being questioned in CIA safe houses.

Box 57 (97) Mann sends A story to SD, McCone, and FBI. Mann hot for it. "Confirmation" by phone tap of Dorticos and Hernandez conversation re: \$\$ exchanged.

This is the height of the crisis 11/26 and 11/27

Nov. 27th

Box 57 (121) Duran rearrested. Interrogate "to extent necessary"

Box 57 (124) A interrogation by CIA officers in safe house elicited a "wealth of detail.

Box 57 (126) COS tells Mann re "wealth of detail" A's story flies with Mann. COS wants all Cuban consulate personnel arrested before they flee to Havana. Mann "time is of the essence."

FBI to the Rescue:

Docs. #1 and 1A Early FBI Legat to Dir. 11/25 Mann out of control; 1A Hoover reconsiders about sending FBI rep. To MC. Mann acting like "Sherlock Holmes." Will send Kennen to MC immediately

Why not credible: @ Doc. #2 CIA memo 12/11 CIA/LHO/Mex. "Oswald blazed trail. . .

@ CIA Box 57 (151) McCone on how A got all those rich details

@ Hal notes (source?)

P. Johnson useful on proof that LHO was in NO until 11/25

@ FBI Early Doc. A LHO's expenses; Hotel and his associations

Doc. B LHO registered under his own name and signed name on Mex. Tourist card. These are CDs.

FBI had a file on LHO's Mex. Trip before 11/22 Knew he contacted Sov. Embassy in MC. See Doc. 2A FBI Early Did not know about Cuban embassy because CIA kept this back. See Doc. D FBI Early

See FBI use of symbol informants to do its own investigation in MC.

Nov. 28th A's story begins to unravel. A begins with a bang and ends with a whimper.

Handwritten notes:
Doc. 2A See
Richberg (had
his car
had no confidence
in Phil Hoover
in CIA
Martell