

Date 11/23/63

Mr. ADRIAN T. ALBA, residence 624 Focis Street, Metairie, Louisiana, advised that he owns and operates the Crescent City Garage, 618 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. ALBA advised that he knew LEE OSWALD while OSWALD was employed at the William B. Reily and Company, Inc. next door to his garage. He stated that employees of the latter company would occasionally get cold drinks from the dispensing machine at his place of business and would sit in the waiting room of his office, drink their soft drinks and look at magazines which he maintained there. He explained that he, ALBA, was a gun collector and recalled that OSWALD showed an intense interest in guns and talked freely about guns. He stated OSWALD seemed to have quite a good knowledge of firearms. He recalled that on one occasion, the exact date of which he could not set; he had ordered a carbine from the National Rifle Association at a cost of \$30.00. In discussing this, OSWALD wanted to know if ALBA could get one for him also. Mr. ALBA stated he advised OSWALD that he could get this gun at this price as a member of the National Rifle Association and each member was allowed to purchase only one. He continued that OSWALD told him to go ahead and get the carbine and that he, OSWALD, would make an offer on the gun that Mr. ALBA could not afford to turn down.

Mr. ALBA stated he did not sell this or any other gun to OSWALD nor has he ordered a gun of any type for OSWALD.

He further recalled that OSWALD showed an intense interest in a Japanese rifle that Mr. ALBA had had customized as a part of his gun collection. He recalled that OSWALD was interested in the number of inches that had been cut from the

7/200

on 11/23/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69  
by Special Agent LESTER G. DAVIS/cv Date dictated 11/23/63

barrel of this gun and was interested in the twist of the rifling. Mr. ALBA pointed out that he usually cleaned his guns at his office to avoid any accident to his children at home, and this is why OSWALD knew of his guns and saw some of them. He recalled that OSWALD would "bury himself" in the gun magazines kept on the coffee table in the waiting room of the garage and otherwise seemed very quiet and smug.

Mr. ALBA recalled that on one occasion, the exact date of which he could not set, OSWALD asked to borrow one of his gun magazines and took it with him. He could not identify the magazine which OSWALD borrowed recalling that OSWALD was reading it and had it open at the time he asked to borrow it. He therefore did not see the magazine cover and did not ask OSWALD which magazine he was referring to. He further recalled that a few days later OSWALD mentioned to him that he had returned the magazine indicating he had replaced it on the coffee table. Mr. ALBA stated he did not see OSWALD return the magazine or check concerning it. He advised he in fact maintained no check on the magazines which he gets by subscription and by purchase from magazine counters and keeps no track of persons who read them.

In order to determine if he was talking about the right man, Mr. ALBA checked the photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the November 23, 1963, issue of the Times-Picayune, New Orleans newspaper. Upon looking at the photograph of OSWALD who was described as being in custody at Dallas, Texas, in connection with the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, Mr. ALBA stated that this was a photograph of the LEE OSWALD he was referring to and the person who borrowed his gun magazine.

Mr. OSWALD made available his supply of gun magazines which were maintained in the waiting room of the Crescent City Garage referred to above. These consist of the following:

June, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

July, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

7/201

NO 89-69

September, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

October, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

November, 1963, issue of "The American Rifleman"

January, 1964, issue of "Guns and Hunting"

December, 1958, issue of "Field and Stream"