

Memorandum

TO : Director FBI (105-3255)
FROM : Legat, Mexico (105-3702) (P)
SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka
IS - R - CUBA

DATE: 5/18/64

CONFIDENTIAL

*all unclassified
except where noted H/m*

15143

ENCLOSURES

Classified by 2040
Exempt from GDS, Category 243
Date of Declassification Indefinite 7/4/77 H/m

Enclosed herewith to the Bureau are twelve (12) copies of a summary letterhead memorandum, including Table of Contents and Index, dated and captioned as above.

REFERENCES

Bureau cable No. 59, dated 4/22/64; Mexico City cable No. 416, dated 2/28/64.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Joint Report

The enclosed summary letterhead memorandum constitutes joint reporting efforts of [redacted] and [redacted] Investigation in connection therewith was conducted by [redacted] of the Mexico City Office as reflected in connection with the "SOURCES" Section hereof.

Description of Contents of Letterhead Memorandum

The enclosed summary letterhead memorandum was prepared in an effort to compile and summarize investigation conducted in Mexico with respect to the travel and activities

- 5 - Bureau (Encs. 12)
 - (1 - Liaison Section)
 - (2 - Dallas, 100-10461)
- 2 - Mexico City
- RLL:jhk
- (7)

REC-1

REC-6

17 MAY 20 1964

-3909

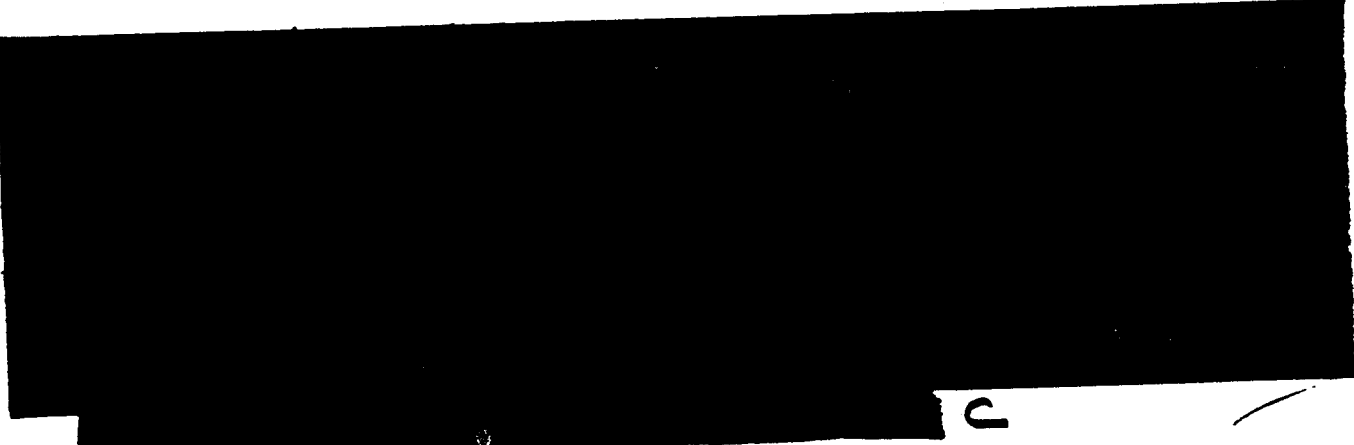
44
X 2cc [unclear] by [unclear] 5/15/64
1cc CIA 014 [unclear] 5/15/64
1cc Dallas [unclear] 5/15/64
1cc [unclear] 5/15/64
RE JUN 15 1964
Remainder destroyed

CONFIDENTIAL

NC 105-3702

in Mexico of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and a large number of allegations which developed in this country in connection with OSWALD and the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. While an effort has been made to document as fully as possible the sources of information relating to the report, in several instances this office received information from the Bureau or a domestic field office by telephone or cable, with respect to which it was not possible to establish full and complete documentation as to sources of that information; however, in order to make the summary complete, more readable and more congruous, some items of information were utilized in the summary without the usual documentation thereof. In those instances, the information, as summarized, was attributed to the Mexico City Legal Attache's files.

All the information of substance appearing in the enclosed letterhead memorandum has been reported previously to the Bureau in form suitable for dissemination.



Investigation by Bureau Agents

As the Bureau is aware, early phases of the investigation in Mexico of the travel and activities of OSWALD were handled by various agencies of the Mexican Government and also by symbol informants of this office. Since Mexican Government investigators were contacting numerous sources of

S E C R E T

(B) OSWALD's Visits to Cuban and Soviet
Diplomatic Establishments -
Investigation by Mexican Authorities

On March 24, 1964, Captain [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] made available a copy of a signed statement which had been made by SILVIA DURAN to the Federal Security Police on November 23, 1963. A translation from Spanish of that statement is recorded hereinunder:

"At the City of Mexico, Federal District, at 6:00 p.m. of November 23, 1963, the undersigned, Captain FERNANDO GUTIERREZ BARRIOS, Assistant Director of the Federal Security (Police), proceeding legally with witnesses present, makes record: that with the presentation in this office of Mrs. SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN for the purpose of being interrogated concerning the matters which are herein set forth, this document was prepared:

"Promptly upon the presentation of the person who under normal conditions is called SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, having been warned to tell the truth and advised of the penalties which are incurred by those who furnish false testimony, described herself as follows: that her name is as recorded, 25 years of age, married, without religious preference, an employee, literate, a native and resident of this city, with domicile at Constituyentes #143, Apartment #3, with respect to the matters under investigation declares: that she has been legally married to Mr. HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO since November 5, 1958, and is the mother of a child named PATRICIA, who, at the present time, is three and one-half years of age; that in the month of July or August of 1961 the deponent was invited to join the Mexican-Cuban Institute of Cultural Relations, which, at that

S E C R E T

time, was directed by Attorney AGUSTIN CUE CANOVAS, as a Coordinator, and, although she does not recall specifically who it was that recommended her, she can clarify that for some time previously she was friendly and visited with frequency the employees of the Cuban Embassy, being a personal friend of Ambassador PORTUONDO, as well as the Cultural Attaches, TERESA PROENZA and LUIS ALVERU, as well as with the female employees, but principally with the secretary of Consul EUSEBIO ASCUE, Miss MARICARMEN OLAVARRI, of Spanish nationality but a relative of ASCUE; that at the Institute the activities were exclusively of a cultural nature and were attended on occasions by the afore-mentioned Cultural Attaches and some Cubans, but in a greater number by Mexicans, always artists and intellectuals, without any political discussions, although she recalls that at the time of the October Cuban crisis in connection with the threatened invasion of Cuba and the subsequent blockade of the island by the North American Government, they listened by shortwave radio to the news from the 'Prensa Latina' (Latin Press), on the basis of which they made up a bulletin which was read of the news that they had listened to directly from Havana, agreeing also to the effect that Cubans and Mexicans attending said meetings discussed the political problem of Cuba on a private basis without doing so in any official character; that the declarant was receiving a salary of 500 pesos (\$40 U.S.) monthly in her capacity as Coordinator at the Institute, with her work schedule being from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. daily, and the money for the maintenance of the Institute itself coming from a monthly subsidy from the Cuban Embassy, the amount of which she is not aware, but also with each one of the members paying a quota, and also contributions were received from persons whose names she does not recall because usually they were made anonymously,

S E C R E T

being unable to fix the monthly receipts, although she was the person who personally received all of the funds received at the Institute; that in addition to the speaker, only Mr. FELIPE ROJAS, who worked as a secretary at the Institute during the mornings, received any monthly salary in the same amount of 500 pesos (\$40 U.S.), with the remainder of the money which was received being used for the payment of rent and other expenses connected with its operation. That in the month of December of 1961, the declarant and her husband made a trip by air to Havana, Cuba, paying for their own transportation, but all of their expenses of their visit to that city and the greater number of the cities of the island being paid by the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the People and the House of Culture, so-called, 'of the Americas,' the trip having lasted fifteen days without their having any contact or connection during this trip with officials of the Cuban Government. That as the speaker has already stated, she has been a sympathizer of socialism and Marxist doctrine for several years, having studied philosophy and existentialism, and particularly she has sympathized since its inception and sympathizes with the Cuban Revolution. That approximately three months ago she began to occupy the position of Secretary to the Cuban Consul in this city, Mr. EUSEBIO ASCUE, who ceased to function in that capacity some five days ago on Monday, the 18th of this month, having been substituted by Mr. ALFREDO MIRAVAL Y DIAZ, clarifying at this time that from the beginning she began to work in that capacity as a temporary measure as a result of the death in a traffic accident of her friend, MARICARMEN OLAVARRI, who had been occupying that position, until some person should arrive from Cuba who would assume the same, having had under her responsibility the administrative operation and preparing the visas which are issued, as well as handling the applications for such visas which invariably are sent to the

S E C R E T

Ministry of Foreign Relations, Government of Cuba, for its approval, having obtained this position directly from former Consul ASCUE, with whom she is very friendly, and for whom the speaker even organized a farewell party in her home, which was attended by almost all of the officials and employees of the Embassy and the Consulate, except the Ambassador. That the speaker does not belong to any political party and never has attended manifestations or meetings, nor has she given lectures or speeches, which her husband has done, since he has written several articles for the newspaper 'El Dia' (The Day) (pro-Communist Spanish language newspaper published in Mexico City); that she has never been arrested for any reason, nor even on the occasion of the visit to Mexico of Mr. JOHN F. KENNEDY, which caused her a great deal of personal satisfaction because of the benefits which it would represent to the country. That yesterday while she was working at the Cuban Consulate, where she is employed from 10:00 to 2:00 and from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. daily and where she receives a salary of 1,500 pesos (\$120 U.S.) monthly, just before their time of departure at noon, a friend commented to her that she had been listening to the radio and heard a news item to the effect that President KENNEDY had suffered an attack in which they had fired three shots at him, as a result of which she called her husband on the telephone and they discussed this news, and he advised her that he already knew about it and referred to said attack as 'monstrous,' and they agreed that upon meeting at their home they would discuss the matter, which they did during their dinner hour, but in a very brief manner since they did not know all the circumstances of the attack and the name and description of the presumed author of the same, its having been only that night that they read in the extra (edition) the news relating thereto, and subsequently on the radio at her residence she heard the name of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, which caused her to remember that this name refers to a North

S E C R E T

American who in the last days of September or the first days of the month of October of the present year appeared at the Cuban Consulate and applied for a visa to Cuba in transit to Russia and based his application on his presentation of his passport in which it was recorded that he had been living in the latter country for a period of three years, his work permit from that same country written in the Russian language and letters in the same language, as well as proof of his being married to a woman of Russian nationality and being the apparent Director in the city of New Orleans of the organization called 'Fair Play for Cuba' with the desire that he should be accepted as a 'friend' of the Cuban Revolution, as a result of which the speaker, in compliance with her duties, received all of his data and filled out the appropriate application, and he left to return in the afternoon, this time with his photographs, and the speaker, recognizing that she exceeded her duties, semi-officially called the Russian Consulate by telephone because of her interest in facilitating the handling of the Russian visa for LEE HARVEY OSWALD, but from there they answered her that the operation would require approximately four months, which annoyed the applicant, since he affirmed he was in a great hurry to obtain the visas which would permit him to travel to Russia, insisting that he was entitled to them because of his background and his partisanship and personal activities in favor of the Cuban movement, the declarant's not being able to specify because she does not remember whether or not he said that he was a member of the Communist Party, but that his wife, of Russian nationality, was at that time in the city of New York from where she would follow him, although his place of origin was the afore-mentioned city of New Orleans; that as soon as OSWALD understood that it was not possible to give him a Cuban visa without his previously obtaining a Russian one, because the former was for transit, he became highly agitated and angry, as a result of which the speaker called Consul ASCUE, who, at that time, was

S E C R E T

in his private office in company of his ultimate replacement, MIRAVALL, but came out and began to argue in English with OSWALD in a very angry manner and ASCUE concluded by saying to him that, 'As far as he was concerned, he would not give him a visa,' and that 'A person like him, in place of aiding the Cuban Revolution, was doing it harm,' its being noted that in their discussion they had been referring to the Russian socialist revolution and not the Cuban, its being stated by OSWALD that he had two reasons to request the visa with urgency, which were, one, that his permit to be in Mexico was expiring and the other that he had urgent necessity of reaching Russia; that in spite of the argument the speaker handed to OSWALD a piece of paper similar to that which she writes at this time in which she recorded her name, 'SILVIA DURAN,' and the telephone number of the Consulate, which is '11-28-47,' and, at any rate, she initiated the handling of his visa application by sending it to the Cuban Ministry of (Foreign) Affairs, from which a reply was received in the normal manner some fifteen to thirty days later approving the issuance of a visa, but conditioning it on his previously obtaining the Russian (one), although she does not recall whether OSWALD subsequently called her or not on the telephone for the Consulate which she had given him; that all of the conversation which the speaker had with OSWALD, as well as that of Consul ASCUE with him, was in the English language since he did not speak any Spanish, and that upon seeing his photograph which appears in today's newspapers, specifically in the newspaper 'El Dia,' she immediately recognized and identified it as being the same person that she has been referring to as LEE HARVEY OSWALD. That on only one occasion the declarant attended a reception ceremony at the Russian Embassy which was given on the occasion of the visit of the astronauts, GAGARIN and TERESHKOVA, on the personal invitation which the

S E C R E T

speaker received from the Russian Consul YACKSOV when the latter visited ASCUE and MIRAVAL and delivered to them their respective invitations at the Cuban Consulate. That with respect to her in-laws, LIDIA and RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO, the former on various occasions attended with the declarant the meetings which were being held at the Institute, whereas the latter only did so on one or two occasions in connection with exhibits of paintings and with respect to BETY SERRATO AZUCAR, the wife of RUBEN, she has always remained aloof from these activities, although all of them are of leftist ideology but do not actively participate in any activities; that BARBARA ANN BLITS TRESMOND ESQUIVEL and AGATA ROSENO GARCIA are friends of BETY and the speaker has known them very little and superficially, as a result of which she knows nothing about their activities and ideologies, and in connection with the gentleman who she now knows is named BENTLEY, she had never seen him before and supposes that he is a friend of BARBARA, since she noticed that he was talking to BARBARA when they were dining at the home of the deponent, being present her husband, AGATA and LIDIA, whereas the others were at the home of her brother-in-law, RUBEN. That she has nothing further to declare and after reading the above, she ratifies and signs the margins in evidence thereof. The above document is closed authorized and witnessed.

Signed, Assistant Director of Federal Security,
Captain FERNANDO GUTIERREZ BARRIOS.
Witnesses: Lic. (Atty.) FERNANDO ORTIZ DE LA PENA;
Lic. CARLOS DURAN LANZ."

S E C R E T

(C) Other Inquiries by Mexican
Federal Security Police

On November 29, 1963, the [REDACTED], made available a copy of a report dated November 25, 1963, recording the results of investigation by Agents of the Mexican Federal Security Police (Direccion Federal de Investigaciones - DFS). A translation from Spanish of that report follows hereinunder:

"In connection with the assassination of the President of the United States, JOHN F. KENNEDY, it was reported that LEE HARVEY OSWALD had previously been in Mexico, as a consequence of which appropriate investigation was conducted, the results of which are as follows:

"1. LEE HARVEY OSWALD was in Mexico, having entered at Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas (State), on September 26 last, as a tourist, proceeding from New Orleans and departing at the same place on last October 3rd.

"2. It was confirmed that he had come to Mexico to apply for a visa at the Cuban Embassy, for transit enroute to Moscow.

"3. Toward this objective, he established contact with SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, a Mexican 'SILVIA DURAN,' whom he interviewed on two occasions, since she is an employee of the Consulate, responsible for making the arrangements necessary for this type of visa and completing the cards with data concerning the applicant, an indispensable requisite for obtaining a Cuban visa.

"4. Through her, he made contact with the Russian Consulate for the same purpose.

"When it was learned that the above-mentioned SILVIA DURAN had been one of the contacts made by LEE HARVEY OSWALD in Mexico, said lady and her husband were arrested in order that they

S E C R E T

might be interrogated, advising in their statements as follows:

"INTERVIEW OF HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO: Mexican by birth, son of a Chilean father and Mexican mother. He said that his occupation is that of Industrial Designer, holding a teaching position on this subject in the National School of Plastic Arts, a dependency of the UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico - National Autonomous University of Mexico), where he receives a salary of 1,400 pesos (\$112 U.S.) monthly; 40 years of age, married, without religious preference, domiciled at Constituyentes (street) #143, Apartment #3, in this city; that the first eight years of his life were spent in Los Angeles, California, and subsequently he came to this capital with his parents, RUFINO DURAN and LIDIA NAVARRO DE DURAN, and later they went to Santiago, Chile, to live, remaining there for a period of a year and one-half, later returning with his brother, RUBEN, to Mexico, being followed later by his sister, LIDIA, and his mother; that he entered the National Agricultural School at Chapingo, where he studied for five years for a career as an Agronomist and as he had learned drawing in the San Carlos Academy, he chose to continue studying that art, which served him as a basis for specializing in Industrial Designing, which he now follows, being a teacher in that subject in the School of Fine Arts of the UNAM, spending his free time in private work as a Designer, for which he receives an income of approximately 5,000 pesos (\$400 U.S.) monthly; that in 1950 he was married to a French woman, LUCILLE DEJARDIN, with whom he fathered a son named PAUL DURAN DEJARDIN, who at the present time is 10 years of age, and with that marriage having lasted more or less six years, and with the breaking up of that matrimony, on November 5, 1958, he entered into a new marriage contract with his present wife, SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, with whom he fathered a

S E C R E T

girl named PATRICIA, now 3½ years of age; that when he became acquainted with his present wife, she was working as a Secretary in the Proteo Gallery and later she and other persons, among them Prof. AGUSTIN CUE CANOVAS, the Cultural Attache of the Cuban Embassy, and others, began to organize the Mexican Cuban Institute of Cultural Relations 'Jose Marti,' in which she served as a Coordinator, and for about the last four months, she has been employed as a Secretary in the Consulate General of Cuba in this city, first having worked with the Consul, EUSEBIO AZCUE, and now with MIRABAL, receiving a monthly salary of 1,500 pesos. He acknowledged that his ideology is leftist and in sympathy with the Cuban Revolution, adding that this is the reason why he permits his wife to work and engage in her present activities. He stated that when he discussed with his wife the assassination of President KENNEDY, having heard the name of the presumed perpetrator, LEE HARVEY OSWALD, she immediately told him that she believed that he was the same individual who in the latter part of September or early October had been in the Cuban Consulate applying for a Cuban visa in transit to Russia; that she had attended him herself and handled his visa application papers, but when she notified him that he would first need a Russian visa and that his application would have to be sent to the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations, which, of course, would require several days, OSWALD became angry and lost his self control, as a result of which SILVIA called the Consul AZCUE, with whom the applicant had a violent argument. He added that he had not seen nor had he personally known LEE HARVEY OSWALD, and in December of 1961 he (DURAN) made a trip to Cuba, accompanied by his wife, paying for their tickets himself.

"It is pointed out that at the home where the DURAN couple was detained at Herodoto #14, Apartment A, the home of the brother-in-law of SILVIA DURAN, named RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO, the

S E C R E T

persons who were visiting at that residence were arrested and their background data is recorded below:"

(None of the individuals listed below as having been interviewed admitted knowing OSWALD or having any information concerning him. Therefore, the data concerning them is being summarized rather than recorded in full.)

RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO advised that he was born in Los Angeles, California, is married to BETTY SERRATOS, is 38 years of age, a decorator by profession, and has applied for Mexican citizenship. He related that Calle Herodoto #14, Apartment A, is his residence.

BETTY SERRATOS DE DURAN related that she was born in the Republic of Honduras and has resided in Mexico for the past ten years, is 33 years of age, and has never belonged to any political party or entertained leftist ideas. She explained that she resides with her husband, RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO, at Herodoto #14, Apartment A. 1121

LIDIA DURAN NAVARRO VDA. (widow) DE FLORES advised that she is 35 years of age, having been born in Chihuahua, Chihuahua; that she resides at Luz Savinon Street No. 1211, Apartment 2, and is employed in the Tourism Department and the Mexican Sports Federation. She denied having political affiliations or sympathies. She explained that she is the sister of RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO and had been visiting them at the time the investigators arrived at their apartment. 2046-1121

AGATA ROSENA GARCIA related that she was born in the Capital (of Mexico) and resides at Rivera Street No. 63, Colonia Las Aguilas. She denied having any political affiliations or being of leftist ideology and explained that she is a friend of the DURANS and visits them frequently at their home.

BARBARA ANN BLISS stated that she was in Mexico as a tourist and has been living in the country for the past eight years, and resides at Bahia de Magdalena #125; that she is divorced from JUAN ESQUIVEL, a Costa Rican citizen

S E C R E T

who presently lives in the United States, and has a monthly income of \$800 per month from the estate of her father, which is administered by a firm in Washington, D. C. She explained that her father, ALONSO BLISS, formerly owned a sugar plantation on Trinidad, but presently resides at 2585 Bayshore Drive, Coconut Grove, Miami, Florida. She explained that she had become acquainted with BETTY SERRATOS some three months earlier at the apartment of CARMEN PINO, and they had exchanged visits with each other thereafter because of their mutual liking for recorded music. She also stated that she had met SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN at a concert, but had no friendship with her.

CHARLES E. BENTLEY explained that he is 27 years of age and was in Mexico as a tourist, having resided for the previous three months at Palermo Street No. 9, Colonia Hipodromo, in Mexico City; that he had been trying to obtain employment as a salesman for the Sonora Cattle Company; that he had served in the United States Marine Corps from 1954 to 1957 and had no political affiliations or leftist ideas. He explained that he had met BARBARA ANN BLISS and BETTY SERRATOS some two months earlier and was visiting at Herodoto No. 14-7 because of his friendship with them.

The signed statement of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN and data connected therewith, which is recorded above, was obtained and the translation thereof from Spanish prepared by T-13, a confidential source abroad.

(D) Hotel Accommodations of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in Mexico City

On November 26, 1963, T-14, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that, following a check of the registration records of numerous middle and lower class hotels in the downtown area of Mexico City, he had ascertained that on September 27, 1963, LEE HARVEY OSWALD had registered at the Hotel del Comercio, located at Calle (street) Bernardino de Sahagun No. 19 and approximately eight blocks from the commercial heart of the Mexican capital. The records disclosed that OSWALD was registered as the occupant of room No. 18 until October 1, 1963, and was deleted from the hotel guest list on October 2, 1963.

S. E C R E T

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES AT
MEXICO CITY CONCERNING OSWALD**

(A) Telephone Numbers in Oswald's Address Book

T-13 advised that the following notations appeared in the personal address book of LEE HARVEY OSWALD (translations of the Spanish language items appear in parentheses):

Mexico City

Consulado de Cuba
(Cuban Consulate)
Zamora y F. Marques
11-28-47
SYLVIA DURAN

Embajada de la Union Sovietica
(Embassy of the Soviet Union)

15-61-55 (15-60-55)

Depto. de Asuntos Consulares
(Department of Consular Affairs)

Cubano Airlines
Paseo de la Reforma 56
35-79-00

T-13 furnished the following information on May 1, 1964:

The directory of the Mexican Telephone Company for the Federal District (Mexican Federal Capital, which includes Mexico City) published in September, 1963, column 2, page 119, records: "CONSULADO de Cuba, Zamora y F. Marquez (names of cross Streets), (telephone) 11-28-47."

Column 1, page 157, of the same directory reflects: "EMBAJADA de la Union de las Republicas Sovieticas Socialistas en Mexico (Embassy of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics in Mexico), Czda. Tacubaya (Calzada meaning highway

S E C R E T

When RODRIGUEZ returned with the taxi, he carried the luggage from the reception area to the taxi, but still has the strong impression that he had a bag in each hand. RODRIGUEZ admitted his recollection of the type and color of the luggage is very hazy, and he does not wish to state definitely that he recognizes the photograph of either piece of luggage in connection with OSWALD.

(F) Arrest, Interrogation and Physical Condition of SILVIA DURAN

With respect to the alleged arrest of SILVIA T. DURAN, the Mexico City daily newspaper "Novedades" for November 30, 1963, page 1, published an article, translated from Spanish as follows:

"Gobernacion (Interior) advises concerning case of Mrs. SILVIA T. DURAN

"The Ministry of Gobernacion advised last night that Mrs. SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, who was interviewed concerning the possibility that she might have had dealings with LEE HARVEY OSWALD during his stay in our country as a tourist, was not located at the Cuban Consulate, nor did she request authorization to serve a foreign government, and that in view thereof, the investigation which was made was not in respect to her status as an employee of the Cuban Consulate in Mexico.

"It (the announcement) concluded by saying that the woman in question agreed to go to the office to which she was summoned and she was interrogated without any force whatsoever."

On December 9, 1963, DAVID ALKON appeared voluntarily at the United States Embassy, Mexico City, identified himself as an architect residing at Calle Fernandez Gonzalez Roa No. 47, Ciudad Satelite, State of Mexico, and furnished the following information to T-2:

S E C R E T

ALKON is a designer of residential homes and has a business arrangement with one HORACIO DURAN for the interior decoration of houses designed by ALKON. DURAN is the husband of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN.

ALKON stated he has no social association with DURAN but understands DURAN is procommunist and often holds Marxist discussions in his home. ALKON advised that DURAN had mentioned to him that his wife had been detained and questioned by Mexico City police about her knowledge of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. DURAN told ALKON his wife knew OSWALD because the latter had been to the Cuban Embassy in an attempt to secure a visa for travel to Cuba. ALKON gained the impression that the wife was not well-acquainted with OSWALD, but only recalled he had been at the Cuban Embassy after she read of the assassination of President KENNEDY. ALKON advised that it was his impression that the wife's contact with OSWALD related only to the application for a visa and that her contact with him was very slight.

ALKON said that DURAN commented to him that he thought it was a mistake for Cuba to protest to Mexico about his wife's being questioned by Mexican authorities, since the latter had a perfect right to question her about her knowledge of OSWALD. According to press reports, the Cuban Government presented a very strong note of protest to the Mexican Ambassador in Havana with regard to the detention and questioning of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN by Mexican authorities, and this note was rejected by the Mexican Government because of the unacceptable language utilized therein.

On April 4, 1964, the following information was provided by T-13:

WILLIAM D. SHANAHAN, Editor of the Mexico City daily English-language newspaper, "The News," related that on April 3, 1964, DANIEL NAVA RAMOS, reporter for the Mexico City daily, "Novedades," had attempted to contact SILVIA DURAN and her husband, HORACIO DURAN, at their residence in an effort to obtain human interest material for a newspaper article he was writing with respect to the OSWALD case. NAVA had experienced considerable difficulty in seeing the DURANs and was allowed to enter their apartment with the understanding that he remain no longer than fifteen minutes. He was not permitted to speak directly to SILVIA DURAN and was advised

S E C R E T

by her husband that she had suffered a nervous breakdown following her interrogation by Mexican authorities and had been prohibited by her physician and DURAN, himself, from discussing the OSWALD matter further.

(G) ELIZABETH CATLETT MORA's Concern
About OSWALD's Activities

T-22, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised as follows on December 6, 1963:

ELIZABETH CATLETT MORA, also known as BETTY MORA, was very upset and excited over the involvement of LEE HARVEY OSWALD as the reported assassin of President JOHN F. KENNEDY.

MORA had indicated that the Communist Party of Mexico was very interested in obtaining all information available concerning OSWALD's travel to Mexico and particularly data as to how much American authorities knew about this.

MORA had stated also that OSWALD could be linked "to Mexico" only through his activities before his trip to the Soviet Union. She was very interested in obtaining information concerning the date that OSWALD departed for Russia and stated that she considered it "terribly important" to obtain any press references to OSWALD's activities in New Orleans, Louisiana, before he went to Russia. She added that if something regarding OSWALD's activities at that time appeared in the press, it could "blow the lid off and we could all get fried."

MORA stated that she could not understand why the investigation of OSWALD as reported to the present time in the press had not focused on New Orleans, Louisiana, rather than Dallas, Texas.

MORA affirmed that OSWALD was well known in Russia among the Americans who were there at the same time as he and that he was "not that much of a nut," meaning that he could not have undertaken singly to assassinate President KENNEDY.

S E C R E T

OLIVEROS, has never purchased a Renault automobile from REYNALDO ROMERO.

The following data was provided by T-2:

On April 15, 1964, CLAUDIO OLIVEROS, who stated he resides at Avenida Ejercito Nacional No. 1049, Apartment No. 301, Mexico, D. F., related that following his previous interview on April 7, 1964, he had recalled that he purchased a Renault automobile in Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, Mexico, in about July, 1961, and transported this vehicle to Mexico, D. F., where he sold the car to a "Mr. DURAN," who was employed at a furniture manufacturing establishment. OLIVEROS vaguely recalled that the buyer of this vehicle either resided or had his place of business in the "Colonia Del Valle" section of Mexico City. He also recalled this individual had a brother who claimed he was married to an American girl.

T-23 advised that it had been determined from observation that HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO, the husband of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, operates a 1962 maroon, four-door Volvo automobile, bearing 1964-65 Federal District of Mexico license plates number 30-51-18.

T-2 advised that on April 24, 1964, CLAUDIO OLIVEROS stated he had learned from a former associate in the used car business that an automobile sales receipt still in the possession of the latter clearly shows that OLIVEROS sold a 1959 Renault, motor No. 7444492, to a "Mr. DURAN" at Mexico, D. F., in 1961. OLIVEROS stated that this sales receipt was signed by DURAN, but the signature was somewhat illegible and he was unable to read the full name. It was brought to the attention of OLIVEROS that records of the Mexican Federal Automobile Bureau indicate the motor number of the 1959 Renault under consideration is 744492. OLIVEROS stated that he is certain that the motor number he provided is correct according to the sales receipt which he personally had examined, and he indicated that he is convinced that this is the vehicle which formerly was the property of ARTURO GAONA ELIAS of Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, Mexico, which he, OLIVEROS, had purchased in 1961 in Ciudad Obregon.

- 143 -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

On April 25, 1964, OLIVEROS advised that he had recalled that the 1959 Renault automobile had been sold to the afore-mentioned "Mr. DURAN" at a lamp manufacturing and sales establishment known as "Lamparas Duran" (Duran Lamps) located in the Colonia Del Valle area of Mexico, D. F.

(I) Inquiries Concerning DURAN Family

On April 27, 1964, T-25 ascertained that "Lamparas Duran" is located at Calle Amores No. 327-A, Mexico, D. F., and is currently operated by one MARIO CARAZO, who stated he had purchased the business from LIDIA DURAN. Source advised that the business apparently employed only three persons.

On April 29, 1964, T-25 advised that he had ascertained that LIDIA DURAN is a widow and has one or two brothers.

On April 27, 1964, T-5 advised he had established from the records of the Passport Section, Mexican Foreign Ministry, that LIDIA DURAN was born March 18, 1928, at Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico, and that her full name, according to Spanish usage, is LIDIA DURAN NAVARRO. At the time of the issuance of a Mexican Passport in 1959, she was married to one RAUL FLORES GUERRERO. On April 29, 1964, T-5 advised that no record of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO could be found in the passport files of the Mexican Foreign Ministry.

On May 6, 1964, T-4 advised he had established through records of the Mexican Foreign Ministry and of the Federal Judicial Police at Mexico, D. F., that LIDIA DURAN NAVARRO DE FLORES; HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO and RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO are the children of RUFINO DURAN SILVA, father, and LIDIA NAVARRO de DURAN, mother.

T-2 advised that on May 7, 1964, CLAUDIO OLIVEROS examined front view and profile photographs of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO and immediately identified these photographs as those of the individual to whom he had sold a 1959 Renault automobile at Mexico, D. F., in July, 1961. OLIVEROS also examined a photograph of RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO and identified this photograph as that of a brother of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO. After examining these photographs, OLIVEROS recalled he had known the DURAN family about ten years ago when they resided on

S E C R E T

Calle Panuco in Mexico, D. F., and late in 1962 he had encountered RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO at the International Airport in Mexico, D. F., and was told by DURAN at that time that he was taking a flight to visit some of the European "Iron Curtain" countries, possibly including Russia.

On May 7, 1964, DAVID ALKON, a Mexico City resident with residence at Calle Fernandez Gonzalez Roa No. 47, Ciudad Satelite, State of Mexico, advised that HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO, the husband of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, currently operates a red, four-door Volvo automobile. ALKON stated that DURAN also owns a 1959 Renault automobile which was from Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, and had been purchased by DURAN at Mexico, D. F., in 1961. ALKON recalled that DURAN experienced difficulty in licensing the vehicle and mentioned that he had to correspond with the previous owner in Ciudad Obregon in order to secure additional data concerning the vehicle. ALKON affirmed that this 1959 Renault is a light grey color and definitely is not beige in color. He said this car is currently stored at a Mexico City repair garage after having been involved in an accident, and DURAN has indicated he was not able financially to pay for the repairs on the vehicle. ALKON stated that to the best of his knowledge, DURAN has maintained possession of this car since he purchased it in 1961.

ALKON stated that he maintains a contractual relation with HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO for the interior decoration of houses designed by ALKON and also is well acquainted with RUBEN DURAN NAVARRO, a brother, as well as with one sister who is known to ALKON as "LIN." Concerning "LIN," ALKON related that she is a widow and until about one year ago operated a lighting fixture firm known as "Lamparas Duran."

ALKON stated that SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN, the wife of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO, was formerly employed in the Consular Section of the Cuban Embassy at Mexico City, and the 1959 Renault which had been the property of HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO since 1961 had undoubtedly been used by the family for transportation to and from the Cuban Embassy on numerous occasions.

ALKON made reference to the fact that he voluntarily had appeared at the United States Embassy, Mexico, D. F., on December 9, 1963, at which time he reported that his contacts

S E C R E T

with HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO had left him with the impression that contacts between SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN and OSWALD related only to the latter's application for a visa and that her contact with him was slight. On May 7, 1964, ALKON advised that his subsequent contacts with HORACIO DURAN NAVARRO have not led him to believe the latter ever had any contact with OSWALD and SILVIA DURAN's contacts with OSWALD related to anything more than OSWALD's application for a visa at the Cuban Embassy.

VIII ALLEGATION BY YLARIO ROJAS VILLANUEVA

(A) Basis for Inquiry

In an undated letter directed to Attorney General ROBERT F. KENNEDY, which was contained in an envelope postmarked December 31, 1963, at Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, the following was recorded as translated from the Spanish language:

"I ask you to forgive these few bold lines addressed to so distinguished a person.

"Mr. ROBERT, I am a Mexican by race and nationality. Also, Mr. ROBERT, I am communicating with you because I do not trust anyone in the matter I intend to deal with.

"I am referring to the death of your brother. Perhaps, my information may prove quite helpful even though various officials of the United States may be involved and affected by it. I, your servant, am willing to identify them. I will tell you only later; however, with patience. It concerns the plan which I never thought would be carried out.

"I used to be a friend of LEE OSWALD, and also of ALBERT, as well as three more people. I knew about the plan, but I never thought that it would turn out to be a true plan.

"I lost their friendship because I did not accept to introduce Communist propaganda into my Mexico. To be more specific, I separated from them and

S E C R E T

truthful in identifying photographs of OSWALD as being of a person he saw in the Cuban Consulate, and he was asked for his explanation thereof.

ALVARADO replied that he had full faith in the polygraph and would not attempt to refute its results. He went on to say that the only explanation he could offer was that he had seen an American in the Cuban Consulate on September 18, 1963, who resembled OSWALD, and that upon seeing the photograph of OSWALD in the newspaper, he built up within himself, either consciously or subconsciously, a complete belief that the person he had seen in the Cuban Consulate was OSWALD.

On December 8, 1963, Mexican authorities deported ALVARADO from Mexico, D. F., to Managua, Nicaragua.

X. MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES AND ALLEGATIONS
RELATING TO OSWALD

(A) Allegation by SALVADOR DIAZ VERSON
Concerning OSWALD and SILVIA DURAN

According to the first confidential source abroad, the White House at Washington, D. C., had received a paper entitled "Possible Psychological Motivations in the Assassination of President KENNEDY" written by JOSE I. LASAGA, 2340 N. E. 7th Avenue, Apartment 4, Miami, Florida.

This speculative paper attempted to establish that the motivation of OSWALD in the assassination of President KENNEDY was FIDEL CASTRO or a CASTRO agent and that OSWALD was so motivated during his trip to Mexico between September 27 and October 2, 1963. The paper included the allegation that OSWALD had an extended interview with the Cuban Ambassador to Mexico, whom he met at a restaurant on the outskirts of Mexico, D. F., from where they departed together in the Cuban Ambassador's automobile for a private conversation.

LASAGA had advised the White House that he received the above report from ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA, an employee of the Voice of Cuba in Miami, Florida, who received the information from SALVADOR DIAZ VERSON, who reportedly was in

S E C R E T

Mexico, D. F., doing some investigative work after the assassination of President KENNEDY.

SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON was interviewed at Miami, Florida, and stated that while in Mexico, D. F., from November 20 to 29, 1963, attending the Congress of the International Federation of Professional Newspaper Organizations, he was at the offices of the newspaper "Excelsior" on the night of November 25, 1963. He learned through the Mexican press that the Mexican Government had arrested one SILVIA DURAN, that DURAN allegedly had OSWALD as a guest in her house during his visit to Mexico, and that DURAN had placed OSWALD in contact with officials of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico, D. F.

DIAZ VERNON claimed Dr. BORRELL NAVARROS, an exiled Cuban newspaperman employed by "Excelsior," told him that on the day following OSWALD's arrival in Mexico, D. F., OSWALD and DURAN went to a restaurant called the "Caballo Blanco" or possibly the "Caballo Bayo," where they met an official of the Cuban Embassy. DIAZ VERNON claimed he knew nothing about OSWALD and the Cuban official's having left the restaurant together in a car.

T-3 advised that on January 11, 1964, Dr. EDUARDO BORRELL NAVARRO, a former Cuban cabinet minister who on occasions writes feature articles for the Mexico City daily newspaper "Excelsior," and resides at 1303 Homero Street, Apartment 301, Mexico, D. F., furnished the following:

SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON was in Mexico, D. F., as he had claimed and discussed OSWALD with BORRELL and other Cuban exiles. DIAZ VERNON also visited BORRELL at the latter's home.

BORRELL did not corroborate the story credited to him by DIAZ VERNON concerning the visit to a Mexico City restaurant by OSWALD and SILVIA DURAN. BORRELL stated he had never heard this story or anything similar.

BORRELL knew of no meeting between OSWALD and Cuban Embassy officials other than the meetings which allegedly occurred at the time OSWALD visited the Cuban Consulate in Mexico, D. F. BORRELL knew nothing concerning any visit by OSWALD to the home of DURAN.

S E C R E T

On January 17, 1964, T-5 advised that he had been unable to locate a "Caballo Blanco" restaurant in Mexico, D. F., but stated that there is a "Caballo Bayo" restaurant located on the outskirts of Mexico, D. F. Source stated that it is a very large, typical, Mexican restaurant which does a thriving business. Source advised that on January 11, 1964, the photographs of former Cuban Consul EUSEBIO AZCUE LOPEZ, who was in charge of the Cuban Consulate at the time of OSWALD's visit, of Cuban Ambassador JOAQUIN HERNANDEZ ARMAS, of SILVIA DURAN, and of OSWALD were shown to the employees of the "Caballo Bayo" restaurant and extensive interviews among the employees of this restaurant were conducted without locating anyone who could recognize any of the photographs of the persons mentioned above as having been at this restaurant.

(B) Information Furnished by ROBERT KAFFKE

T-13, who had occasion to interview ROBERT KAFFKE on February 27, 1964, in Mexico, D. F., advised the following:

KAFFKE identified himself as having been a member of a student group which visited Cuba in 1963 and he explained that he had come to Mexico, D. F., to seek contact with the Cuban Embassy in the hope of arranging another trip to Cuba or to obtain assistance in making arrangements to travel to Communist China as an observer or a teacher. He mentioned that he had made some inquiries with respect to the visit to Mexico, D. F., of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the hope that he could develop an angle which would enable him to write a saleable magazine article.

KAFFKE furnished the following background data concerning his interest in OSWALD's activities in Mexico:

He stated that within the recent past, MARK LANE, an attorney for Mrs. MARGUERITE OSWALD, LEE HARVEY OSWALD's mother, had visited San Francisco, California, on a lecture tour, and KAFFKE had attended the lecture and had spoken to LANE at some length after the lecture.

LANE told KAFFKE that "the FBI is so convinced that OSWALD was responsible for the assassination of President KENNEDY that it has ignored other witnesses and failed to follow up various leads." LANE claimed to have seen an

S E C R E T

	<u>Pages</u>
DEWEY, CHARLES.....	20
DIAZ, FEDERICO.....	90
DIAZ, LEOPOLDO.....	50
DIAZ VERNON, SALVADOR.....	160, 161
DOMINGUEZ, CAPITAN CARLOS.....	53 , 58
DUBLIN, ROBERT V.....	20
DUENAS, POLO.....	48-50
DURAN.....	143
DURAN, HORACIO.....	121
DURAN, LIDIA.....	144
DURAN, PATRICIA.....	35, 44
DURAN, RUFINO.....	43
DURAN, SILVIA.....	40, 44, 120, 121, 146, 160-162
DURAN, SILVIA TIRADO DE.....	42, 43, 121, 143, 145, 146
DURAN, MRS. SILVIA TIRADO DE.....	35, 120
DURAN, SYLVIA.....	112
DURAN DEJARDIN, PAUL.....	43
DURAN LANZ, CARLOS.....	41
DURAN NAVARRO, HORACIO.....	35, 43, 44, 141, 143-146
DURAN NAVARRO, LIDIA.....	144
DURAN NAVARRO, LIDIA (VDA. DE FLORES).....	41, 43, 45
DURAN NAVARRO, RUBEN.....	41, 43-45, 144, 145
DURAN SILVA, RUFINO.....	144

- E -

ECHEVERRIA, LUIS.....	42, 60, 108
EHLINGER, LEO CHRIS.....	85
EMBAJADA DE LA UNION SOVIETICA (EMBASSY OF THE SOVIET UNION).....	112, 113
EMERSON, ADRIENNE M. J.....	85
EMERSON, HENRY OLIVER.....	85
ERNEST.....	133
ERNESTO.....	133
ERNIE.....	133
ESCALANTE GONZALEZ, MANUEL.....	92
ESCAMILLA, TOMASA GARZA DE.....	80
ESCAMILLA MARTINEZ, ARCADIO.....	90
ESCOBAR, JOSE BENITO.....	20
ESCOBAR, OLIMPIA BENITEZ DE.....	20
ESCOBAR, REINA.....	20
ESCOBAR BENITEZ, NELSON ULISES.....	94
ESCOBEDO, FELIPE.....	53

- V -

S E C R E T