

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

REC-102

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555)

DATE: 12/11/64

FROM : *[Signature]* LEGAT, MEXICO (105-3702) (P)

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
IS - R - CUBA

ENCLOSURES

Enclosed are 12 copies of a letterhead memorandum dated and captioned as above.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mrs. ELENA GARRO DE PAZ and her daughter, ELENA PAZ GARRO, first came to the attention of this office on 11/17/64 when they contacted Mr. PETER H. JACOBY, who is employed at the Office of the Regional Book Center in the Embassy. According to JACOBE, Mrs. PAZ' husband, OCTAVIO PAZ, had at one time been the Mexican Ambassador to India and had been known by JACOBE there.

Mrs. PAZ was initially interviewed on 11/17/64 by SA ROLF L. LARSON. At that time she claimed to have seen OSWALD at a party in the home of RUBEN DURAN, but was unable to specify the date. She declined to furnish her home address, but stated she could be contacted through Mexico City telephone number 40-20-57. When asked by SA LARSON as to why she had not come forward with the information sooner, she indicated that she had been afraid to do so. At that time she declined to furnish further information unless she could be assured that it would not be made public. She also stated she wanted to do some further research in an effort to fix the date of the party.

Mrs. PAZ and her daughter were interviewed in the Mexico City Office on 11/24/64 by Legat CLARK D. ANDERSON and SA RICHARD S. CLARK. The stories of both were inclined to be rambling and it was difficult to pin them down on details. From comments made during the course of the interview by Mrs. PAZ, it was obvious that she was rather familiar with at least

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

CDA:plb

(6) AGENCY CIA, RDC - 344... of let + LHM, Dallas

REQ. REC'D

DATE FORW. 12-22-64

HOW FORW. 143, CG

4 DEC 30 1964

12-22-64
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CC: [unclear] 645RE

EXP. PROC.

ENCLOSURE 2

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SOVIET SECTION

some of the details of the Warren Commission Report, particularly those concerning OSWALD's activities while in Mexico City.

Mrs. PAZ and her daughter readily identified photographs of the members of the DURAN family and of EUSEBIO AZCUE. Photographs of OSWALD in different poses were exhibited to them along with photographs of several individuals completely unconnected with the OSWALD case. While they picked out some of the photographs of OSWALD as resembling the American, they saw at the party in the RUBEN DURAN home, they did not make a positive identification and it is to be noted it would have been quite easy to pick out the OSWALD photographs because of the numerous press photographs of him which appeared in Mexico City newspapers following the President's assassination.

Mrs. PAZ and her daughter appeared to be somewhat Bohemian. Mrs. PAZ, herself, while denying she was ever a Communist, stated that in former years she had taken an active part in promoting agrarian reform in the State of Morelos in order that poor peasants might be granted land. She mentioned the names of numerous Mexican liberals and leftists with whom she has been acquainted in the past.

As has been mentioned, Mrs. PAZ' conversation during the interview was quite rambling and the impression was gained by the interviewing agents that she might not be completely stable. Despite her request that her identity and that of her daughter be concealed, their names have been included in the letterhead memorandum since it is felt the memorandum would have no meaning if this were not done.

Interviews of ARIO ALEJANDRO LAVAGNINI STENIUS were conducted by SA RICHARD S. CLARK.

LEAD

MEXICO CITY

At Mexico, D. F., Mexico:

Will continue to report to the Bureau immediately all information received in instant case.

COPIES

No local dissemination was made of the LHM. Two extra copies of this letter have been attached for forwarding by the Bureau together with copies of the LHM to Dallas, domestic office of origin.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
December 11, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

The following information was supplied on
November 24, 1964, by Mrs. ELENA GARRO DE PAZ and her
daughter, ELENA PAZ GARRO.

They are residents of Mexico City, but declined
to supply their home address. Mrs. PAZ stated she is a
cousin of RUBEN, LIDIA, and HORACIO DURAN, the latter being
the husband of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN. She said she had not
furnished previously the information set forth hereinafter
because of fear of reprisals.

Mrs. PAZ said that on August 23, 1963, she attended
a dinner at the home of a Mexican Communist whom she declined
to identify. Among others present at this dinner were Cuban
Consul EUSEBIO AZCUE and his wife. She had not previously
known AZCUE. In conversation with him during the course of
the evening she learned that he was supposed to return to
Cuba on or about August 27, 1963. She later learned that
he did not depart Mexico at that time.

According to Mrs. PAZ, she had infrequent contact
with her cousins, the DURANS; however, on a date she fixed
as Saturday, September 28, 1963, she received a telephone
call from RUBEN DURAN, who invited her and her daughter to
attend a party at his house during the first part of the
following week. She was unable to fix the exact date of
this party, but felt it had been held on Monday, Tuesday,
or Wednesday, September 30, October 1, and October 2,
1963, respectively, with the most likely possibility that
it was held on the evening of October 1 or October 2, 1963.

It was Mrs. PAZ' recollection that at about

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ENCLOSURE

9:00 a.m. on the date of the party she and her daughter were picked up and taken to the party by LIDIA DURAN. Also accompanying them was Mrs. PAZ' sister, DEVA GARRO DE GUERRERO GAVAN. She described this sister as a Communist who was expelled from the Party for being a Catholic.

She estimated that some thirty people attended the party, described as a "twist" party, at the home of RUBEN DURAN. Upon arrival at RUBEN's home she noted what appeared to be a young American couple near the door, but they left shortly thereafter.

At about 10:30 p.m. three young, white Americans arrived at the party. They were greeted by SILVIA DURAN and spoke only to her. They more or less isolated themselves from the rest of the party and insofar as she observed they had no conversation with anyone else at the party.

The three Americans appeared to be between twenty-two and twenty-four years of age. One of them was dressed in a sweater and dark trousers and appeared to be about five feet nine inches in height. The second one was about six feet tall, had blond, straight hair, a long chin, and was a bit "beatnik" in appearance although his dress included a coat. The third American wore no coat.

Mrs. PAZ said the American dressed in the sweater and dark trousers resembled very much press photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Her daughter agreed with this observation. Photographs of OSWALD in various poses were exhibited to both Mrs. PAZ and her daughter at the time of the interview and they were unable to make a positive identification, but claimed he very much resembled the American at the party as they recall him.

Mrs. PAZ could not state how long the three Americans remained at the party nor did she observe them when they departed. She questioned HORACIO DURAN as to the names of the Americans, and he told her they were friends of SILVIA DURAN. He did not give her their names, but did tell her they were supposed to depart Mexico City the following morning. She added that this latter was not correct inasmuch as she and her daughter, while driving in an automobile on Insurgentes Street the following morning, observed the three Americans walking near a furniture store on that street.

It is to be noted that investigation has established that LEE HARVEY OSWALD departed Mexico City by bus at 8:30 a.m. on October 2, 1963, and could not have been identical with the American allegedly observed by Mrs. PAZ at the party if this party were held on the evening of October 1 or October 2, 1963.

Mrs. PAZ was questioned regarding the identity of other persons attending the party at the RUBEN DURAN home who might have been in a position to observe the three Americans. She said that in the course of the party her daughter met a young man named "ALEJANDRO" at the party and danced with him. He was apparently quite smitten with the daughter and tried to call her on several occasions after the party. The daughter did not take the calls and as a result "ALEJANDRO" wrote several letters to the daughter. Mrs. PAZ exhibited two of these letters, as well as a business card which identified the young man as ARIO ALEJANDRO LAVAGNINI STENIUS.

An examination of the letter which Mrs. PAZ said was the first directed to her daughter by the young man disclosed that it bears the date of September 1, 1963, and was postmarked at the Mexico City Post Office on September 2, 1963.

Questioned as to whether her daughter had known the young man prior to the party at the RUBEN DURAN home, Mrs. PAZ was most insistent that she had not. When it was pointed out to her that the first letter from the young man to her daughter bore a Mexico City postmark of September 2, 1963, she commented that probably the Communists have facilities for falsifying postmarks.

On November 27, 1964, ARIO ALEJANDRO LAVAGNINI STENIUS, Martinez de Castro No. 19, Tacubaya, Mexico, D. F., Mexico, was interviewed. He advised that he is an employee of General Electric de Mexico and recalled attending a large party sometime in the latter half of 1963 at the apartment of RUBEN DURAN located on Herodoto Street in Mexico City. He was not a friend of the DURAN family, but had been invited to the party by Mrs. ISABEL NANSON, a divorcee who was formerly married to an American and a close friend of the wife of RUBEN DURAN. An Italian friend of his, MARCELLO FABRE, was also invited to the party by Mrs. NANSON. He, Mrs. NANSON, and FABRE went to the party together.

LAVAGNINI recalled that there were about thirty people at the party, few of whom he knew. At the party he met a Mexican girl who had recently returned from living in France. He was unable to fix the date of the party, but felt it was probably early in September because of a heavy rain which occurred as they were leaving the party at about 2:00 a.m.

LAVAGNINI noted no Americans present at this party. He was familiar with the appearance of LEE HARVEY OSWALD because of publicity following the assassination of President KENNEDY, but otherwise had no knowledge of him and had never seen him except for news photographs following the assassination.

He volunteered to consult his papers and attempt to fix the date of the party. On December 2, 1964, he advised that he recalled having been at two different parties at the DURAN home, one of these being the large party at which he had met the Mexican girl who had formerly lived in France. He was unable to fix the date of this party.

LAVAGNINI said he had questioned Mrs. NANSON and MARCELLO FABRE, and they were unable to recall the date of the party nor could they recall that any Americans had been present at the party.