D-302 (Rev. 3-3-59)

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11/29/63

Mrs. C. L./CONNELL, 6949 Lake Shore Drive, Dallas, Texas, advised she has been a voluntary assistant to the Catholic Cuban Relief Committee of Dallas, Texas, for approximately the past year. She stated one of her Cuban refugee acquaintances, SYLVIA ODIO, 1816 A West Davis Street, Dallas, advised her telephonically on November 28, 1963, that she knew LEE HARVEY OSWALD, and that he had made some talks to small groups of Cuban refugees in Dallas in the past. ODIO stated she personally considered OSWALD brilliant and clever, and that he had captivated the groups to whom he spoke. ODIO further reported to CONNELL during this conversation that a call had been made in recent months by a Cuban associate of hers to an unknown source in New Orleans, Louisiana, requesting information on LEE HARVEY OSWALD. ODIO volunteered that information was in turn received from the New Orleans source to the effect that OSWALD was considered by that source in New Orleans to be a "double agent". The source stated OSWALD was probably trying to infiltrate the Dallas Cuban refugee group, and that he should not be trusted.

CONNELL knew of no connection between JACK/RUBY and LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

CONNELL voiced the opinion that General EDWIN A. WALKER and Colonel (FNU) CASTER, a close acquaintance of WALKER, have been trying to arouse the feelings of the Cuban refugees, in Dallas, against the KENNEDY administration. She based this statement upon information furnished her by various Cubans to the effect that WALKER and CASTER made speeches before Cuban groups in recent months in the Dallas area in opposition to the KENNEDY administration policies.

CONNELL further advised she met a man some months ago through SYLVIA ODIO, who was introducted as Mr. (FNU) MARTIN from Uruguay and whom ODIO stated had tried to obtain guns for the Cuban people in their contemplated overthrow of CASTRO sometime ago. CONNELL stated she was suspicious of MARTIN since he claimed to be an airplane engineer, while at the same time ODIO stated he operated a washateria in Dallas. CONNELL further stated MARTIN apparently traveled out of the United States a great deal and was referred to by his Latin associates always as "Mr. Martin". CONNELL stated she has not seen or heard anything of MARTIN in recent months from her contacts with Cuban refugees.

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CONNELL advised that ODIO is 26 years of age, is highly educated and intelligent, divorced, the mother of four children, and presently employed for the National Chemical and Manufacturing Company in Dallas, Texas. CONNELL stated it is common knowledge that ODIO has been receiving psychiatric treatment since coming to the United States in March of 1962 from Dr. BRUTON C. EINSPRUCK of Dallas. ODIO has a sister, SIRATO ODIO, a senior at Dallas University, but her parents are said to be presently in a Cuban prison.

Also related to this report is Exhibit 2943, which follows. of the Secret Service wrote the Commission instead of trusting his in-The chief spector with the information in that report. Mrs. Connell should have been a witness before the Commission, as should Father McChann and Col. L. Robert Castorr and his wife. The FBI and the Secret Service could have learned what he knew for a phone call to him. Instead, the agencies passed on suspicions and laid the foundations for the suspicions of others. Had these leads been properly followed, had the Commission had the interest in them it was charged with having, it would have been led to other and vital information, including threats against the Presi-dent's life. There is no more that I can now say about this. A tape recording of that threat, made in Dallas, does exist. Had the FBI and the Secret Service not again in this case avoided the obvious, that threat, made by Cubans, would have been in the Commission's possession and the involvement of Cuban refugee groups in the assassination would have been in the record. Of course, the government would not have dared drop it there. Note also that in his interrogation of General Walker, Liebeler avoided all of this, although it was in the Commission's files and presumably in his possession. It was his responsibility to know of this report. He did know of the Rowley letter, Exhibit 2943.

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Captain WILFRED A. GRUSICH, SR., Deputy Commander, Traffic Division, New Orleans Police Department, advised that following the arrest of LEE HARVEY OSWALD by the Dallas, Texas, Police Department on November 22, 1963, and the showing of his picture on television, he recalled that an individual generally fitting the facial characteristics of OSWALD had been in the Traffic Division with some Cubans to apply for a

Captain GRUSICH stated he has been handling all applications for parade permits for some time. Before a parade can march in the streets of the City of New Orlenas, a permit must be secured. Approval must come through him first before it is approved by the superintendent of police and the mayor of the City of New Orleans.

Captain GRUSICH stated as best he can recall, sometime in March, 1962, three individuals came to his office to secure a parade permit. Two of these persons were, as he remembers, Cubans who spoke very little English; the third individual was an American who acted as the spokesman. As best he can remember, these people represented the Cubans in exile in the United States, and it was their desire to stage a parade for the purpose of raising funds to aid Cubans in Cuba to resist FIDEL CASTRO and his regime. Captain GRUSICH stated that since this was a controversial sort of a situation, he discussed the situation with the Superintendent of Police JOSEPH I. GTARUSSO, and it was felt that such a parade could possibly create trouble.

Captain GRUSICH could not remember specifically if these individuals submitted an application to parade. Captain GRUSICH reviewed all parade applications for as far back as 1959, and was unable to identify any, either approved or rejected applications, which he could tie in with this incident.

Captain GRUSICH said that he had discussed this incident with Sergeant GEORGE DE DUAL who is assigned to the Traffic Division, and DE DUAL felt that he had also seen either OSWALD or someone who closely resembled him in the Traffic Division, attempting to secure a parade permit.

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Here is another avoided link to The False Øswald, another ignored evidence of an Oswald look-alike engaged in anti-Castro activity.

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DU DUAL told him, however, that he could not remember why this person wanted the parade permit or just when this incident occurred.

Captain GRUSICH was shown a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD taken August 9, 1963, by the New Orleans Police Department, Number 112 723. Captain GRUSICH stated that although he still felt that OSWALD had been the one he was referring to as having been there with the Cubans, he could not state this to be a fact.

Captain GRUSICH said that inquiry through DENNIS LACEY, Aide to the Mayor of the City of New Orleans, may reveal further information regarding this parade permit, since all permits must be given final approval by the Mayor's Office, and Mr. LACEY is the one who would handle this. He further said that the Bureau of Treasury for the City of New Orleans may have some information with respect to this permit.

It was pointed out by Captain GRUSICH that it would be necessary to secure a permit if one was to distribute literature in the streets of New Orleans. This would not be within his jurisdiction but would be in the City Permit Office, which would be under the Bureau of Treasury.

Captain GRUSICH said that the incident with respect to the three individuals coming to the Traffic Division to secure a parade permit was during the period of time when JOHN J. BECKER was in charge of the Traffic Division. He is now retired and is residing at 4770 Overton Street, New Orleans.

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Other Individuals and Organizations Involved or Interviewed

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Miss SYLVIA ODIO, 1816 W. Davis Street, Dallas, Texas, advised she is a Cuban refugee and a member of the organization known as Junta Revolucionaria or JURE.

Miss ODIO stated that in late September or early October, 1963, two Cuban men came to her house and stated they were from JURE. They were accompanied by an individual whom they introduced as LEON GSWALD. Miss ODIO stated that based upon photographs she has seen of LEE HARVEY OSWALD she is certain that LEON OSWALD is identical with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Miss ODIO stated she is not certain if she misunderstood the first name of LEON or if the two Cuban men who introduced OSWALD as LEON misunderstood him. Miss ODIO stated the purpose of their visit was to ask her to write some letters to various businesses in Dallas and request funds for JURE.

Miss ODIO stated that both of her parents are presently in prison in Cuba and for this reason she deblined for fear her parents would be possibly harmed. These two individuals together with OSWALD then left. A few days later one of the two Cuban individuals contacted her by telephone and stated they were leaving town presumably to return to either Miami, Florida, or Puerto Rico, the headquarters for JURE. The individual who called Hiss ODIO who only gave his name as LEOPOLDO stated he was not going to have anything further to do with LEON OSWALD since he considered him to be "loco." This individual known only as LEOPOLDO stated OSWALD did not appear sincere. He told them he was an ex-marine and could help them in the underground however he appeared to be very cynical and seemed to think that all Cubans hated all Americans. According to LEOPOLDO, OSWALD stated "I'll bet you Cubans could kill KENNEDY for what he did to you at the Bay of Pigs." According to Miss ODIO, LEOPOLDO told them that the Cuban people bore no malice toward President KENNEDY because of the Bay of Pigs episode.

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Instead of diligently following this vital lead on the False Oswald, the government avoided any genuine investigation, delayed calling Mrs. Odio as a witness, tried to destroy her credibility, and at the same time avoided all the essential background investigation. Not until after the Commission had made its report did it get the inadequate FBI report on these characters. It delayed asking for any investigation of them until a time that guaranteed the investigation could not be completed in time for its consideration and inclusion in the Report. That apology for an investigation, in File/1553, follows. It actually confirms Mrs. Odio, despite contrary FBI representation.

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