

Martinez Soto, Jorge Antonio
McLaney, Mike
Training Camps

10/25/69

Gary and Paul,

In response to the list of names of those reported arrested north of Lake Pontchartrain in 1963, the Archives has come up with only one that is close, not one of those I gave them. It is my recollection one is identical with a name on the bus manifest. If this is the case, they did not make name files of the manifest or they are holding out.

The attached none pages of CD 229 are, however, fascinating. Here we have a man from a much better than average station in Cuban society and, it would seem, one who knew Mike McLaney well enough to get a post-Castro job from him. Having the same matronymic does not mean he is related to Soto Vesquez, but the possibility exists.

Then it turns out there is this connection with the camps, the McLaney brother having provided the property for the ammo depot.

Unless recollection is flawed, O'Connor, the filing agent, knew about the camps because he worked on the Fernando Fernandez bit.

Does anyone have the O'Connor 12/31/63 report, or is it one I've already used, referred to above?

These pages do not reflect (p 1, par 1) how the "remarks" indicated ~~he~~ "led the employee to believe" he "was acquainted with" LHC, unless it was suggested after the fact.

Description is rather meager, with even weight omitted.

Copy not sent Gary for usual reasons (time, paper, condition machine).

If no one has this 12/31 report and one does have better identification (perhaps there is only one in biblio) I will get at Archives.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONDate of transcription and transcriptionist's
initials or interviewee

Copy to:

Report of: JAMES J. O'CONNOR Office: MIAMI, FLORIDA
Date: 4/3/64
Field Office File #: 105-8342 Bureau File #: 105-82555
Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - R - CUBA.

Synopsis:

JORGE ANTONIO MARTINEZ SOTO, born 2/15/28, in Cuba, identified as individual who was reported to have visited the Parrot Jungle, a tourist attraction at Miami, Fla., about 11/1/63, and to have made remarks there indicating possible acquaintance with OSWALD. MARTINEZ denies any personal acquaintance or knowledge of OSWALD. He maintained that his remarks may have been misunderstood due to his imperfect English.

- P -

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DETAILS:

The following investigation supplements that contained on Pages 1 to 15 in the report of Special Agent JAMES J. O'CONNOR dated December 31, 1963, at Miami, Florida, captioned, "LEE HARVEY OSWALD, Aka.; IS - R - CUBA." In that report, investigation was set out reflecting that on or about November 1, 1963, an unidentified male made remarks to an employee at the Parrot Jungle, a tourist attraction at Miami, Florida, which remarks led the employee to believe the unknown male was acquainted with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. This unidentified male was said to have made reference to President KENNEDY, and "shooting between the eyes," and that he had a friend who was an American, a Marxist, and was a sharpshooter and could speak several languages, including Russian. The Parrot Jungle employee related that the unidentified male, in one instance, referred to his friend by the name "LEE," and remarked that the friend was either in Texas or Mexico.

On March 6, 1964, Mrs. LILLIAN SPINGLER, the Parrot Jungle employee who previously furnished the information concerning the afore-described unidentified male, contacted the Miami Office of the FBI to advise that the unidentified individual had returned to the Parrot Jungle on that date and was observed by her to drive a blue and white Chevrolet bearing 1964 Florida license 1-143874. Mrs. SPINGLER said that Mrs. MARY TYSON, who operates the ticket booth at the Parrot Jungle and speaks Spanish, ascertained that the unidentified male's name was MARTINEZ.

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Records of the Dade County, Florida, Automobile Registration Office reflect that 1964 Florida License 1-143874, was issued to JORGE SOTO MARTINEZ, 464 N. E. 31st Street, Miami, Florida, for a 1954 Chevrolet four-door.

On March 16, 1964, Mrs. ANNA FISHER, 464 N. E. 31st Street, Miami, stated she recalled JORGE MARTINEZ as a tenant in one of her apartments, for a period of about a year, until approximately 1963. She said she did not know his current residence, but recalled that he worked at the Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach. She said she did not know any of his associates, and that he resided alone, although she understood he had been married.

On March 17, 1964, Miss KAYE BOURBEAU, Personnel Office, Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, advised that JORGE MARTINEZ was currently employed as a bell boy at the hotel, and had begun employment with the hotel on July 14, 1961. His record indicated that he had worked for the Cuban Customs Service in Cuba during the period October, 1949, to March, 1959. She stated that MARTINEZ's address was 711 S. W. 5th Street, Miami, Florida, and that his Social Security Number was 262-70-6632. His employment references were reflected as MICHAEL J. McLANEY, casino owner, known three years; JIM BYRES, Transportation Manager, ~~place not indicated~~; EMILIO GARCIA, property owner, place not indicated; and, MIGUEL A. GARCIA, Manager of the Light Company in Cuba.

Inquiry conducted at 711 S. W. 5th Street, resulted in learning that JORGE MARTINEZ was not known at that address.

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On March 18, 1964, Miss KAYE BOURBEAU, Personnel Office, Fontainebleau Hotel, advised that the inquiry made of JORGE MARTINEZ resulted in obtaining his current address as 301 N. E. 62nd Street, Miami, Florida.

On March 17, 1964, record at the office of U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Miami, Florida, Number A11 873 416, pertaining to JORGE ANTONIO MARTINEZ SOTO reflected that he was born on February 15, 1928, in Havana, Cuba. He had been granted a U. S. resident visa at the U. S. Embassy, Havana, on June 28, 1960, and arrived at Miami via Pan American Airways on July 21, 1960. His sponsor for immigration into the United States, who furnished an affidavit promising employment - keep of MARTINEZ, was indicated as MICHAEL J. McLANEY, 4855 Pine Tree Drive, Miami Beach, Florida.

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Date 3/20/64

JORGE ANTONIO MARTINEZ SOTO voluntarily appeared at the Miami Office of the FBI in answer to a telephone call placed to him at the Fontainebleau Hotel on March 22, 1964. MARTINEZ said he is known as GEORGE MARTINEZ, and he felt he had sufficient comprehension of English to permit conduct of the interview in the English language.

MARTINEZ said he has on occasions in the past taken visitors in his personal car to tourist attractions in the Miami area, including the Parrot Jungle. He recalled the occasion on or about November 1, 1963, when he took tourists to the Parrot Jungle, and while there engaged in conversation with the employees in the gift shop and displayed his ability to write with both hands simultaneously. During interview, he exhibited this ability by writing his name, JORGE MARTINEZ, with both hands simultaneously.

Mr. MARTINEZ stated that he had no personal acquaintanceship with, or knowledge of, LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He said that if the Parrot Jungle employee thought he had expressed an association or acquaintanceship with OSWALD, this misunderstanding on the part of the employee must have resulted from his poor pronunciation of English, and lack of grammatical correctness. He stated that, in fact, he knew no one with the first name LEE, and was at a loss to understand how the employee might have obtained this misunderstanding. He said, likewise, he had no friend located either in Texas or Mexico, and that the incident of his having allegedly spoken in this sense was completely erroneous.

MARTINEZ stated that he does regard himself as excitable, and particularly so with regard to the control of Cuba by FIDEL CASTRO, and that he may have made some remarks related to CASTRO which were misinterpreted by the Parrot Jungle employee as directed toward President JOHN

On 3/22/64 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 105-8340

by Special Agent JAMES J. O'CONNOR:CK Date dictated 3/25/64

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F. KENNEDY. He said he vaguely recalled having spoken about CASTRO and the Cuban situation. He said, by way of explaining remarks attributed to him by the Parrot Jungle employee, that he may have said that he wished he were in Washington, or that he were the President of the United States so that he could exercise the power to blow up FIDEL CASTRO. MARTINEZ said he may also have expressed some displeasure at what he regards as the failure of the United States to rid Cuba of CASTRO, but it was not a criticism of the United States Government, which he considers to be the best in the world. MARTINEZ denied that he would have made any such statement as "shooting between the eyes of President KENNEDY," and explained that if he made any such references, it would most certainly have been with respect to FIDEL CASTRO.

MARTINEZ stated that he is acquainted with no one whom he knows to be a U. S. citizen and Marxist, or such an individual who had served in the U. S. Armed Forces. He stated that he, himself, speaks Spanish and broken English, and no other language, and he does not have any friend or acquaintance who can speak the Russian language. MARTINEZ said that, likewise, he could think of no acquaintance whom he knew to be a marksman or sharpshooter, and he added that if he had made some remark of this nature to the Parrot Jungle employee, it was unquestionably in reference to the means by which he would like to see FIDEL CASTRO eliminated.

MARTINEZ said he did not recall what may have prompted him to talk along these general lines during his visit to the Parrot Jungle, but possibly some development

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in the Cuban situation had recently occurred which could have upset him. He said that it was incredible that anyone should think that he would have any relationship with a pro-CASTRO person, because, in fact, he has only hate for CASTRO sympathizers. He related that he was employed in the Ministry of Finance in Cuba as of 1949, and continued in that department until the beginning of 1959, at which time he was the Customs Inspector in Charge of Havana Harbor and the Colombia Air Base near Havana. He said he was economically comfortable, in that he was earning \$900.00 a month as of 1959, and resided rent free in a \$40,000.00 home in Havana which belonged to his aunt, and which he would eventually inherit.

MARTINEZ continued that his former father-in-law, CARLOS PUJOL, was a government administrator during the regime of Cuban President CARLOS PRIO, and it was through PUJOL that MARTINEZ originally obtained employment in 1949 in the Ministry of Finance.

He said that his own father, ANTONIO MARTINEZ PEREZ ABREU, had been a successful and well-to-do attorney in Cuba prior to the advent of FIDEL CASTRO to power, but had since lost his properties through confiscation by the CASTRO regime. He said he did not know the whereabouts of his father, although the latter might still be in Cuba. He said that his mother, CARMEN SOTO URQUIZA, had divorced his father years ago, and married EMILIO GARCIA PEREZ, who had lost a large amount of income property in Cuba to the Cuban Government. He said his mother and step-father continue to live in Cuba.

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MARTINEZ said that his wife, CONCEPCION LUISA CORTES MADRAZO, had come to the United States with him in July, 1960, but they have since separated and are contemplating divorce.

MARTINEZ stated that his immigration into the United States was sponsored by MICHAEL McLANEY, who had operated the casino in the Nacional Hotel in Havana before the Government of FIDEL CASTRO closed down such operations. MARTINEZ said that when he lost his job in the Cuban Customs Service in the first part of 1959, when the CASTRO Government removed the pre-CASTRO personnel, he, MARTINEZ, worked for McLANEY at the casino in the general capacity of handling Spanish-speaking clients. He said that as of July, 1960, he reached the decision that he could no longer accept the restrictions of freedom being imposed by the CASTRO regime, and decided to move to the United States. He said that very shortly after arrival, he began employment at the Fontainebleau Hotel at Miami Beach as a "runner," handling cars, and with the exception of about three or four weeks during 1960 when he worked at a motel on the 79th Street Causeway, Miami Beach, he has been steadily employed at the Fontainebleau.

MARTINEZ stated that he is a graduate of the Belen College in Cuba, and had studied law for one year at the University of Havana. He said he had not joined the forces which engaged in the Cuban invasion of April, 1961, but subsequently volunteered for training in the Cuban unit of the United States Army, but was not accepted, possibly because he was overage. He stated he has never

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applied for nor received assistance or aid under the Cuban Refugee Program.

In conclusion, MARTINEZ stated he would volunteer to take a polygraph examination at any time if any question remained as to possible acquaintance with, or knowledge of, LEE HARVEY OSWALD or any other individual who may be engaged in any plan or activity inimical to the interests of the United States.

Physical description of MARTINEZ was noted as follows:

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|------------|--|
| Age | 36, born 2/15/28, Havana Province, Cuba |
| Height | 5' 8" |
| Hair | Black, straight |
| Eyes | Hazel-green |
| Complexion | Olive |