

New Address: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701:::301/473-8186

12/20/67

Dear Jim,

I've not been able to write detailed memos on what I did and saw on my recent trip, though I have on most left or sent brief ones and a number of tapes. I have spoken to your staff members about the various things, so at least some of them do know.

Two men only did not keep their appointments with me. I think each thereby asked for special attention. In each case we were signalled that these men have something to say that they do not want to. Without these signs, each is a man who has already earned attention.

I had an appointment with Frank Bartes that he not only did not keep but he failed to respond when I left messages and I know he got them. You already had indication of a need for looking into his associate at the Medallion Real Estate Co., Lopez. Alberto Fowler told me he believed Bartes flew in the Conaco, meaning for the CIA. If this is true, you also have another pilot and another CIA link. I left a memo on Bartes, I think.

In Cuba, he was a wealthy man. Before nationalization of the railroads he is said to have given Castro \$1,000,000. Presumably he got some of his money out. His business uses of it were said to have been unsuccessful. He and his predecessors apparently were never officially designated delegates of the CRC in N.O. I think this is recorded in the tape of the interview I had with the man I have been referring to as "my new friend", formerly with the company. Properly treated, I think this man can be quite valuable. Jim Alcock, to whom I introduced him, has a question about him because we got no response to a question about Joe Moore. However, I think this is of innocent explanation, for when I checked back I had a description and some background that could have triggered his recollection. According to Alberto, Bartes has not been behaving normally recently. Certainly his failure to keep his appointment, which was for a specific purpose and as the tape shows, for me to tell him things about the appearance of his name in places he might not have known about, and his failure to let me know he would not when all he had to do that day was get a Christmas tree is anything but "normal".

Manuel Gil, now employed at Schwegenen's, did a similar thing. He was off Monday 12/18. He made a date for him to meet me at the motel at 9 a.m. While I was at breakfast at 8:30 he phoned and left this message: Impossible for me to see you today because I was called to work. I will call you tonight about or after 6 p.m. He didn't. I got to him about 8. He said he forgot, pretended to be sorry, and said he'd call me back in ten minutes. We could have gotten together then, of course. He didn't call back. I phoned after an hour. His wife said he was taking a shower. I finally got him later and we had a few words. He tried to give me the standard propoganda and I bluntly told him the day for that was past, that his behavior singled him out, that sooner or later he would be called on when the interview might not be as friendly as one between us might have been, and that if he were wise he'd forget all the crap and remember the truth. This rightwinger calls himself a "liberal", says the "Communists" fear the "liberals" because they are the alternative, that Cubans loved Kennedy because he was such a liberal and because he was their hope for their return. I rapidly disabuse him and he had

a somewhat different but still unregenerate attitude. In any event, he knows that Kennedy bit will do him no good and why. He regards Bringuier as a responsible man and a friend. According to Alberto, he hates Butler now and is no longer with INCA, which may serve a good purpose (Alberto also is opposed to INCA, regards it as a futility).

Alberto may be out of the hospital now-should be-and in a noncontagious condition. In the light of what you now know, I strongly urge you to have a long chat with him. He may know much about things in which you had no interest months ago but now are interested in.

He also recommended we talk to Felipe Rivero, who is in the Miami phone book, Alencopy St., Coconut Grove. He is head of a Cuban nationalist group, about to be deported because of his violence, the UN shelling, Canadian bombing, etc. Rivero is in financial need, his legal problems having exhausted him financially. From Alberto I learned that he is a student of terrorism and an expert at it, having made a lifelong study of it. He is a Nazi type, regards himself as principled, etc. He was imprisoned with Alberto. He should know the techniques and the most able practitioners.

Another lead I have not been able to do anything about but will try if and when I get time is to check with Army Times to see if they have a copy of the Carbo speech. One of my informants, who I do not now recall, seemed to think this likely.

In one of the Harv Morgan tapes is a reference to an Diniccolo (or old) of Chicago, who apparently had a 1968 Ferris involvement. His informant wanted very much to talk to me. Harv wanted him to see you when you were in Calif, then agreed you could not spend your time in preliminary screenings. This source is involved with the FBI in a way that frightens him, apparently with a charge of having sold information (1959-60 period). I told Harv to tell him I'd be there in early Feb and he said that might be too late. You did not get to San Francisco, anyway. I'll try and keep up with this and see if there is anything to it. I also discussed what is probably an aspect of this, by phone, with Jim Alcock. The Chicago involvement here may have extended to N.C. and 1964.

Since my return I have developed a new company source who has no knowledge of the things we are most interested in but has of their interest in us. It is current, active, sometimes excited. Through an intermediary (I also have direct contact, but source is fearful of that) it is possible I will develop much of the story, including fronts and what relates. Preliminary indications are that when we get away from the official fictions and into projections of what might have happened interest and reactions heighten. I think it best to be elliptical for the moment. I just may come up with a considerable file, but it will have to be treated with circumspection.

My recent appearances in Washington (especially the Fyne Show), have had quite a reaction. Tomorrow night I'll spend 2 1/2 hours on the top night talk show and will pour it on a bit, with Liebel on tape. I'll be on TV soon there twice, once on Crane, once as a followup, tentatively arranged. I have suggested that I air what I could not on that show then go into. This may get a little Washington reaction if I can do it...Your ChiTrib response to Art was good. They have been able to make three recent wire-service feeds. Sometimes the back door opens more readily. I'll be making an attack on the CIA as the inspiration and physical leak of the label there by phone today and I'll be making a similar broadcast to San Francisco, also by phone, Tuesday...If I can get it dubbed in time, I'll be sending you a partial tape of my last night's conversation with Art, including new information he has relating to Bradley. He is jammed up and I offered to relay...I prepared him for a visit to the lake when I was out there, with copies of files. He hasn't been able. I suggested he take Steve Burton. They plan the visit for today.

897-3311 - #215 D

Talk with Schweyman - names
Butler

Fowler opposed to WCA + Butler
like Ochsner

Talk to De M. with who he knows
in Palm Beach - F. Wood there
with strong men Birch
Barthes may have
been flying in Congo - was
then CIA

Talk to - Miami ^{to be} - defunct
Felipe Rivero - in former
Miami newspaper of St.
Mount group ^{the} Cuban National -
1st group - by name - most
knowledgeable - should be talked
to - studied terrorism in all his
life - Nazi - no personal with F

Douglas L. Lipidge - one of leader list.
AIR Force - captured -
Cuban - Cuba - CIA report.

6 months ago - started out a left
N.O. - Made it. Mine

Jim had failed out

Left. has kept side of events

Fowler heard Bertha not
entirely normal today

TELEPHONE MESSAGE



ROOM 103

DATE 12-18 TIME 8:20 AM

Mr. H. Weichung

FROM Manuel Gil

PLEASE CALL WILL CALL LATER

TEL. NO. _____ AREA CODE _____ NUMBER _____

MESSAGE Impossible

for me to see
you today because
I was called to work
I will call you
tomite about 24
after 6:00 pm

LONG DISTANCE... THE NEXT BEST THING TO BEING THERE
PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Memo to Jim Garrison Via Andrew Sciambra re:Thornley:

The woman who then lived in Rockville, Md., and phoned me some time ago to tell me she had known ~~xxxxxx~~ Thornley when they both worked for Kent Courtney is Mrs. Brian Carey. Her then phone number is 284-8293, a Rockville number. Dialing it now produces a recorded announcement saying that the customer has moved out of town and the n- number is not yet available. I presume there would also be a change of address at the Rockville

From the length of the conversation, which I taped, my notes are very brief and pretty illegible. What I can make out includes these words:

"In Mex & N.O. When O was".

"Thornley at Habana Bar". "Also Bourbon House".

"Mex _____ had a ship ran TV & washers to Cuba-poss guns-degree Chapel Hill."

"Thornley close to . 12-13 over restaurant- 1962 Carlos
Mex.talk Carlos-had radio on long range communication. Thornley there constantly.
Friend of Th. had new mag in Sun Times 8/26"

As best I can, I'll attempt to get in touch with Mrs. Carey.

The inference of the notes is that she knew Thornley and Oswald were in Mex at the same time, which would be exciting.

To Jim Garrison from Harold Weisberg

3/23/68

Miscellaneous notes

Dean Andrews told me that Gordon "Ovel's partner James Schneider has returned to New Orleans from California and that he ties in with about 30 people of interest. The import of this comment is that Schneider has connections of various kinds with these people, unnamed.

I asked Barbara Reid to get what she could and to try and locate a plump but well-formed lazy young woman named Rambi. The reason: When he returned, Bill Belzall lived with her.

People who know David Chandler quote him as saying he could go anywhere he wants, that LIFE likes him so they will arrange it, that he wants very much to go to France and write plays, and wonder why he doesn't.

In checking on Belzall there is a quarter tattoo-artist named Jack who supposedly has CIA connections and another man named Dick White (or Smith) who could be helpful.

~~Emilio Liobet's address is 919 Esplanade. Although I was under the impression he had no phone, I find this number written in my notes near his name. 838-8179. It need not be his.~~

One of the rumors I picked up is that Vernon Cordas, described as an experienced private detective, has been interested (presumably on behalf of a client) in the assassination since a day or two afterward. He is said to spend long hours sitting in the Fontainebleau just a lookin' in this connection.

Another is that two French reporters were in New Orleans, saw Steve Plotkin, got some pictures (source unknown) and left convinced you have a case.