

MM 105-6342
JJO/nsc

CD 246

On December 13, 1963, MRS BETTY STONE, employed in the office of Dr. KENNETH HOSFORD, a dentist with office located at 7430 Red Bank, South West, Fortran, telephonically contacted the Miami Office and advised that Dr. BOYD EDWARDS wife has a personal friend who is employed in a store where an unknown Cuban had made comments to the effect he was going to shoot President KENNEDY.

On December 17, 1963, Dr. KENNETH HOSFORD advised that his wife's friend is Mrs. LILLIAN SPINLER, who is employed in the gift shop at the Parrot Jungle, located in the Southwest section of Miami. Mrs. SPINLER had related to the wife of Dr. BOYD EDWARDS that a Cuban who visited the Parrot Jungle had made some remarks which appeared to connect him with IAN HARRY OSWALD.

On December 17, 1963, Mrs. LILLIAN SPINLER, 6360 S. W. 103rd Street, Miami, Florida, was telephonically contacted, at which time she stated that she did not wish to be connected at the present time, unless she was employed, or at her home in the evenings, for the reason that she felt her employer and also her husband did not want her to become involved in the investigation relating to IAN HARRY OSWALD. She stated that she would have a day off on December 19, 1963, at which time she might be contacted.

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FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 20, 1963

1.

Mrs. LILLIAN SPINLER, 6360 S. W. 103rd Street, Miami, stated that she is employed as a clerk in the gift shop at the Parrot Jungle, a tourist attraction, located in the Southwest section of Miami.

Mrs. SPINLER stated it was approximately the first week of November and very probably on November 1, 1963, on a Friday afternoon about 2:30 p.m., that a male individual, whom she assumed was probably a Cuban, approached her at her counter in the gift shop at the Parrot Jungle, and asked her for a piece of paper. She said he wrote some notes for himself, which he kept, and she remarked to him that he wrote with his left hand. He then told her that he wrote equally well with either hand, and with both hands at the same time. He asked for her name, and he proceeded to write the name "LILLIAN SPINLER" it with the left hand of his usual left hand, with both hands, and in good penmanship. He then claimed to her that he could write different things at the same time with both hands, and said that it took great concentration. He further remarked to her that he obtains much more knowledge from reading the newspapers than the average person because he reads every line and in between the lines.

Mrs. SPINLER said that at that point, she felt that this individual was seeking attention, and although the store was empty at the time, she did not wish to give him any name. She became a bit loud in his speech, and the handwriting of the gift shop does not want the clerks to engage in too much conversation with the visitors. She said that he continued to talk, however, although she did not pay too close attention, until he remarked that he did not like the way the Government of the United States was operating, and after making some mention of the President and Washington, D. C., possibly a statement to the effect he intended to go to Washington, D. C., he stated something to the effect of "shooting between the eyes." She then realized that he must have been referring to shooting President KENNEDY, and she paid closer attention to him. He continued that he had a friend who was smarter than himself, who could speak more languages than himself, including Russian. He said this friend was a Marxist and an American citizen, who

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On 12/19/63 at Miami, Florida File # Miami 105-6342
by Special Agent JAMES J. O'CONNOR/nob Date dictated 12/19/63

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had served in the armed forces. At this point, he mentioned that LEO (using the given name for the first and only time), in place of his previous references to his friend, is a sharpshooter, and that he has a very good eye. He further remarked that his friend was brilliant, but that he did not know where his friend was at that time, although he believed he was either in Texas or Mexico.

Mrs. SPYGLER stated that she is certain that the unknown man she believed to be Cuban had used the name LEO in speaking of his friend, because at the time, her thought reflected upon General KENNETH E. LEE, who she thought that the unknown Cuban might be a person with a mental problem, and that he was, in fact, resembling to General LEE.

Mrs. SPYGLER said that in all she probably spoke less than five minutes with this unknown individual, and she did not know if he came alone to the Parrot Jungle, although he was unaccompanied in the gift shop.

She said that on that occasion, Mrs. J. R. BRIGG, another clerk at the gift shop, observed the unknown Cuban.

She said that the gift shop manager, Mr. BILL VALIER WYER, may also have observed the unknown Cuban at that time, because he came into the gift shop, and the Cuban left very shortly thereafter. She said she mentioned the remarks of the Cuban to Mr. VALIER WYER, and the latter stated that the Cuban probably had too much to drink.

Mrs. SPYGLER related that on November 22, 1963, the date of the assassination of President KENNEDY, she was visiting in Key West, Florida, when she received news of the assassination. She said that on the return trip to Miami on November 29, 1963, the stewardess of the unknown Cuban came to her mind, and on arriving home, she mentioned to her husband she thought she knew who had killed the President. She recalled to her husband the fact that she had previously told him about "the man" who said he was

going to shoot the President between the eyes. Mrs. SPYGLER said that the unknown Cuban, when at the gift shop, on or about November 1, 1963, had been very friendly to his friend when he was talking about shooting, although at that point in the conversation, Mrs. SPYGLER had withdrawn her attention from the Cuban and, therefore, was not certain of the exact content of his statement with regard to shooting, and whether he said "between the eyes."

Mrs. SPYGLER continued that subsequently, the news was announced that ORLAND had been arrested at the assassin of the President, and at that time, she did not immediately associate the given name "LEO" with ORLAND, but rather thought it was ERNEST ORLAND. She said that while she was concerned about the incident involving the unknown Cuban at the gift shop, the fact that ORLAND had been arrested as the assassin gave her cause to disregard the lead to report the incident to authorities.

Mrs. SPYGLER said that on Tuesday, December 10, 1963, about 4:00 or 4:30 p.m., while she was in the back room of the Parrot Jungle gift shop working on packages, Mrs. BRIGG, who had also observed the unknown Cuban when he was at the shop on or about November 1, 1963, called to Mrs. SPYGLER to say she believed the unknown Cuban was outside the gift shop at that time. Mrs. SPYGLER said she went to the door leading from the back room to the gift shop property, at which time the unknown Cuban was inside the shop, and she recognized him as being the same individual who, she had spoken about shooting the President as of November 1, 1963. She said she did not believe that he observed her at this time, December 10, 1963. Then, according to Mrs. SPYGLER, about 5:00 p.m. on December 19, 1963, one of the clerks at the gift shop then reported to Mrs. SPYGLER, "there's your man," recognizing Mrs. SPYGLER observed the unknown Cuban walking rapidly from the exit of the Parrot Jungle toward the parking area with both hands in his pockets. She said he seemed to have a disturbed look on his face; in fact his eyes were blood wrinkled, and his face somewhat older looking than when she

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originally observed him on or about November 1, 1963. She said she proceeded out to the parking lot and observed the unknown Cuban walk toward a tourist bus which people were boarding, but he then went around the bus to another section of the parking area, where he went to a parked car and appeared to be looking back toward the office area of the Parrot Jungle over the rear of the car. He then sat in the car, and Mrs. SPYGLER returned to the Gift Shop, as Mr. BILL YANSEN WILSON, the Gift Shop Manager, had come out to take her out of the store, whereupon she asked him what make car was the one parked three cars down where they were then standing, in which she had seen the unknown Cuban sit. She said Mr. YANSEN WILSON said it was a Chevrolet. She said he did not mention what model Chevrolet, but she was certain it was an older model, as the jewelry was mounted rather than square. She observed that the car had a white or light-colored top, and a light green or light blue bottom. She said that neither she nor Mr. YANSEN WILSON made an observation of the license plate on the car.

Mrs. SPYGLER said she thinks that possibly the unknown Cuban may have come back to the Parrot Jungle to see if Mrs. SPYGLER would recognize him, but she does not believe that is her best.

Mrs. SPYGLER reviewed several thousand photographs of Cuban tourists who have arrived in the United States since December, 1962, but was unable to select any photograph as being that of the unknown Cuban involved in the incident described above.

Mrs. SPYGLER described the unknown individual as follows:

Age:

Was observed about 11/1/63, she thought he was in his early 20's. Mrs. SPYGLER said he appeared older; that is, in his late 20's or early 30's.

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Height:
Weight:
Complexion:
Hair:
Eyes:

Speaking Ability:

Dress:

Around 5' 8"
Medium
Dark
Dark, believed full, and straight
May be hazel or light in color, and possibly has long eyelashes; his eyes seem to hold one's attention, and might be described as "vivid"
Could express himself well in English, but not definite accent, which Mrs. SPYGLER regarded as Latin
Not particularly well dressed. Believed to have worn a brown sweater and heavy trousers on first occasion, 11/1/63, and believed to have worn jacket and heavy trousers on second occasion, 11/15/63.

Mrs. SPYGLER added that she was not certain that the unknown individual was a Cuban, but she believed by his manner, speech, and appearance, that he probably was. She said that she did not observe him drive off in the two-tone colored car, described as an older model Chevrolet, into which she had observed him enter.

Mrs. SPYGLER said she did not know if the unknown individual might have been waiting for anyone while in the Gift Shop, although this was a possibility, since one of the shows was then taking place at the Parrot Jungle, and it was not a normal time for any visitors to be in the Gift Shop. She said, however, that neither she nor any of the other employees to whom she has talked concerning this matter observed anyone in the company of contact on either occasion that he appeared at the Parrot Jungle.

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She said that she was on vacation during the period November 10 - December 3, 1963, but Mrs. TRIGG, who also observed the unknown individual on the occasion of November 1, 1963, or approximately that date, had not mentioned seeing the unknown individual thereafter until December 10, 1963.

Mrs. SPYKEMAN was requested, in the event the unknown individual should again return to the Parrot Jungle, to make an effort to obtain the license number or further identifying data concerning the individual, without taking any step which might endanger herself.

Mrs. SPYKEMAN stated the unknown individual had written her name with both hands simultaneously. She said she did not keep the paper on which he had written.

1.

Mrs. J. R. TRIGG, 13130 Old Outler Road, Miami, a clerk in the gift shop at the Parrot Jungle, Southeast section of Miami, stated that she had observed an unknown individual whom she believes to be a Cuban, who had displayed his ability to write with both hands to Mrs. HELEN SPYKEMAN, another employee of the gift shop. She said she did not listen to much of the conversation that went on between this individual and Mrs. SPYKEMAN on the occasion of the individual's visit to the Parrot Jungle on or about November 1, 1963. She said she heard no mention of the President, but did hear the individual make some remark concerning "Good Electing."

She said she had the General Impression that he must have brought some tourist to the Parrot Jungle, because he appeared to be talking, and she believed a shop was taking place in the Parrot Jungle at the time he was in the gift shop.

Mrs. TRIGG said that this same individual returned to the gift shop on December 19 or December 11, 1963, at which time she observed him, but did not speak with him. She said she brought his presence at the Parrot Jungle to the attention of Mrs. SPYKEMAN, because Mrs. SPYKEMAN had previously expressed considerable concern over remarks which the unknown individual had made.

Mrs. TRIGG stated she had no information which might lead to the identification of this unknown person.

She furnished the following description for the unknown individual:

Age: 29 - 30
Height: 5' 9"
Weight: 160 lbs
Build: Ordinary

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by Special Agent JAMES J. O'CONNOR/hjs Date dictated 12/19/63
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Characteristics: Appeared to be Latin
 Speech: Spoke English with what
 Other Characteristics: RHO registered as a Cuban agent
 have completed, dark hair;
 not believed to have had other
 a vestige of glasses

MR. TROTT also advised that the unknown male had
 written her given name "ANITA" with hands simultaneously.
 She did not recall whether he spoke to her directly and said
 she disposed of the paper at the time.

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1.

MR. HANK TROTT, ticket office, Parrot Jungle,
 Miami, stated that he had knowledge, she had never observed
 the unknown individual concerning whom MR. TROTT
 and MR. J. R. TROTT have mentioned to her as a person who
 made threats concerning the President of the United States.

MR. TROTT stated she maintains a register of
 all individuals who enter the Parrot Jungle on a pass.
 She said passes are granted to residents of the area after
 they pay entrance fee for their three visit, and, thereafter,
 bring other visitors to the Parrot Jungle.

She made available the register which such passholders
 sign, and a review of this register for the period of
 October 20 through December 15, 1963, reflected the name
 of only one male individual with a Spanish name. This
 was noted to be ANTONIO GIL, JR., who entered the
 Parrot Jungle on a pass on November 10, 1963.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

December 20, 1963

Date

Mrs. LOUISE ROSEN, 6133 S. W. 45th Street, Miami, Florida, stated she recalled the occasion in approximately the beginning of November, 1963, when an unknown individual, whom she believed to be Cuban or Latin, was the only customer in the Gift Shop at the time and engaged Mrs. WILLIAM SPINGLER in conversation. Mrs. ROSEN recalled this individual may have been waiting for someone at the time, and he displayed his ability to speak Spanish to write her name with either hand. Mrs. ROSEN said she walked away from the occasion of the Gift Shop where this individual was standing because he was rather loud in his talk, and she did not want the manager of the Gift Shop, Mr. WILLIAM VARNER WYNN, to find her involved with this individual. Further, she stated it was obvious to her this individual wanted an audience, and acted in a very cocky manner.

She said he spoke with accented English, and had remarked that he could speak several languages. She said that she did not hear his entire conversation with Mrs. SPINGLER, but after the individual left the Gift Shop, Mrs. SPINGLER told her he spoke in a dangerous manner concerning his dislike for this country, and the fact that he could shoot a gun well. Mrs. ROSEN stated that she had seen the individual on only the one occasion, that is, about the beginning of November, 1963. She described him as about 25 - 35 years of age, with dark hair and complexion, not very tall, very probably of Latin origin.

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Miami, Florida

Miami 105-8342

On Special Agent JAMES J. O'CONNOR/hob

File #

12/19/63

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

December 23, 1963

Date

Mr. WILLIAM VARNER WYNN, Manager of the Gift Shop at the Parrot Jungle, 11000 S.W. 57th Avenue, Miami, Florida, stated he recalled that car accident, December 10, 1963, at approximately 5 o'clock in the afternoon, he had begun to lower the American flag in front of the Parrot Jungle entrance, when Mrs. WILLIAM SPINGLER, a clerk in the Parrot Jungle Gift Shop, approached him. He stated Mrs. SPINGLER asked him what kind of a car was parked a few cars down from the area of the flag pole, where he was then standing.

He said he told Mrs. SPINGLER the car in question was a Chevrolet. He said he recalled it to be about a 1955 to 1957 model Chevrolet with a light faded blue top and a dark, possibly blue, bottom. He stated he did not observe any one in the car at this time, and in fact, he did not have a full view of the car because of the other cars parked there. He recalled that the car in which Mrs. SPINGLER was interested carried a Dade County, Florida, license plate, that is one with a 'D' prefix.

Mr. VARNER WYNN stated he subsequently advised Mrs. SPINGLER was concerned over the fact the driver of the car in question, or at least the man she saw enter that car, might have had something to do with the assassination of President KENNEDY.

Mr. VARNER WYNN continued that through inquiry made by him at the time, he learned that a Spanish speaking man and woman had been visitors to the Parrot Jungle on that day and may have been brought to the Parrot Jungle by the individual about whom Mrs. SPINGLER was concerned. He said it is quite possible the unknown

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by SA JAMES J. O'CONNOR:DMB

Date dictated 12/23/63

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Individual was acting illegally as a tourist guide, in view of the fact that local ordinances require a permit for vending and guiding of tourists. Mr. VANDER WYDEN stated he checked the register maintained at the Parrot Jungle for those tourist guides or drivers who are given free admission to the Parrot Jungle because they bring tourists, and on the day in question, that is believed to be December 10, 1963, no tourist guide had signed the register.

Mr. VANDER WYDEN stated it is possible the unknown individual whom he believes escorted the Spanish couple who visited the Parrot Jungle that day may have acted in a guilty or furtive manner at the Parrot Jungle because of the realization he was subject to police arrest for failing to possess a permit. Mr. VANDER WYDEN stated he will be on the alert in the future to any return to the Parrot Jungle of the car he had observed, and he would record the license number of the car if he saw it.

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On December 20, 1963 Mr. JOE GERWENO, a tourist guide for the West India Travel Service, 190 S.W. 3rd Avenue, Miami, Florida, was interviewed at the Parrot Jungle, Miami, Florida. He stated that from the description of the unknown individual and his car, he could not suggest the identity of the person whom Mrs. ILLIAN SPRINGER has reported as having made statements indicative of association with LEN HARVEY OSWALD.

Mr. GERWENO, who is of Spanish extraction and speaks Spanish fluently, advised that the Spanish spelling of the name "ILLIAN" is "ILLIAN." It being noted that the unknown individual in question had written the name "ILLIAN."

On December 30, 1963, inquiry was conducted at the Hollywood Beach Hotel, Hollywood Beach, Florida, pursuant to information that one JAMES FREDERICK MURPHY had made a job application at the Sealer-Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Texas, on October 31, 1963, together with another individual believed identical with subject OSWALD, and MURPHY's application indicated previous employment at the Hollywood Beach Hotel.

Mrs. MARY ANN LAMORTON, Personnel Director, Hollywood Beach Hotel, made available record reflecting that JAMES FREDERICK MURPHY, born June 16, 1936 at Kosciusko, Mississippi, had been employed as a bellman from November 14 to December 2, 1961. It was indicated his employment was terminated for reason of reduction in force. Other descriptive data contained in the record was as follows:

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Height 5'10"
 Weight 140
 Hair Blond
 Eyes Gray
 Marital status Single
 Northern address N. Wina Street,
 Natchez, Mississippi
 Local address 1947 Buchanan St.,
 Hollywood, Florida
 Nearest relatives STEAN MURPHY,
 1209 Scudder Street,
 New Orleans, LA.
 JOHN MELVIN,
 1947 Buchanan Street,
 Hollywood, Florida
 Reference #488-42-7325
 Social Security

On December 20, 1963, record of the Hollywood, Florida, Police Department was found to reflect that JAMES FREDERICK MURPHY, born June 16, 1936 at Keesler, Mississippi, had been arrested for vagrancy on October 24, 1962 and given ten days suspended sentence. The record reflected fingerprints of MURPHY submitted to the Identification Division of the FBI as of November 1, 1962, were searched through criminal arrest fingerprint records and revealed no previous arrest for MURPHY. MURPHY's fingerprint classification is indicated as:

14 M 28 V OII
 M 16 W GWO

On December 20, 1963, Mrs. JOSEPHINE CLOSE, owner of the Joss Apartments, 1947 Buchanan Street, Hollywood, Florida, advised she had no recollection or

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record of JAMES FREDERICK MURPHY as a tenant in the apartments. She stated JOHN MELVIN was a 68 year old handyman, who was killed in August, 1962, and who used to occasionally call the employment office at Hollywood to get boys to help him do the work around the apartments.

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REG re CLR46:2-17,

Obviously, there is much too much corroboration here for the matter to be lightly dismissed, and it is not isolated, there being a number of such ~~pinxixixixix~~ incidents in Florida and Georgia.

It is interesting that the summary lumps this and Jure (they had no one in Dallas then-false) and DRS- the Walker meeting (did we ever get the list of names of those there, from this CD?)

Yet why would this person return to where he had identified himself with a presumed assassin in advance of the assassination? Hard to believe.

Unless my recollection is wrong, despite the summary of this part of this CD, it is through JURE that the FBI got to Hall, etc., when, so late, they were directed to check Odio's reputation for truthfulness.

If there is anything we want done in Miami, I have a very fine young couple there, bright and helpful, but I'd not want to get them into anything that might lead to trouble for them. They cannot afford it. They are just married and shoestringing (and did well on Penabaz for me).

I should have pp 18-26, which includes or deals with this Dallas RE-Walker meeting, but I do not find it. If you have it, Paul, I'd like now to compare it with what the Castorrs told me of their knowledge of it. I think it would be worthwhile checking out as indicated in my memo on receiving the summary because that bunch stayed in Dallas after the meeting and I know some of the nuts they saw. Coinciding with this was a real threat to kill JFK when he came to Dallas (Billings got the tape but would not share it). It is one of the possibly worthwhile areas.

Gotts get ready for that high point in the week's TV, that revolutionary Butler.

HW