

Boon-Boon Room taken - Price
see interview negative

126-41

NO 89-69/dc

The following investigation was conducted by SA DONALD C. STEINMEYER and RICHARDE. LOGAN at New Orleans on December 5, 1963:

Photographs taken of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and CHARLES H. STEELE, JR. passing out handbills in front of International Trade Mart, New Orleans, on August 16, 1963 were shown to the following persons in an effort to identify an unknown third person who also appeared to have handbills in his hand. It is noted that at the time STEELE was interviewed he advised that an unknown third party was also passing out handbills.

ORESTES PENA, Owner, Habana Bar, 117 Decatur, said the unidentified male with an X over his head on the photograph showing OSWALD passing out handbills at the International Trade Mart was unknown to him but looked a little like a Cuban who was frequently at the Boom Boom Room at 6235 Claiborne and who is possibly a boy friend of the piano player at the Boom Boom Room.

The following persons associated with the Boom Boom Room, 6235 Claiborne, advised that no one they knew, nor any of the patrons at the Boom Boom Room, including the boy friend of the piano player was identical with the unidentified male with the X over his head in the photograph showing OSWALD passing out handbills at the International Trade Mart;

WARREN TOLEDANO
Caretaker who is generally on the premises of Boom Boom Room

MURRAY SOLO
Owner, Boom Boom Room

RUBAN GONZALEZ
Bartender, Boom Boom Room

NANCY GONZALEZ
Wife of Bartender, Boom Boom Room

The above persons said they all knew the boy friend of the piano player at the Boom Boom Room and stated that he was definitely not the unidentified male in the photographs they looked at.

CD 126, p. 41 Oswald literature distribution, Crestes Pena, Warren Tolosano, Murray Solo, Ruben Gonzalez, Nancy Gonzalez, Boom Boom Room, Charles H Steele, Jr.

Again, what is missing makes this an interesting report. Missing at the early date of December 5 is anything about Pena's personal knowledge of Oswald, Oswald (true or false) at his bar, the "drunk", etc. Pena testified to this, much later, and knew much more than he was asked or allowed to testify to. I have this on tape. He also took me to confirming witnesses. Knowing Pena, I am confident he volunteered it is Steinmeyer and Logan didn't ask. It is not a language barrier that accounts for this, for I understand him well enough. Logan, in any event, acted as a Commission translator.

Lacking also is any reflection of any interest in whether the people at the Boom Boom room knew anyone resembling the men sought.

If Pena said this man looked a little like, he did not intend it the way the FBI played it. He certainly was not making positive identification, which he is not at all reluctant to do. He was offering a lead, nothing else. I interpret this as a ~~strong~~ suggestion of homosexuality, something of which he is unusually well informed.

As of the last time I saw him, he had been turned off. However, last week I wrote him and sent him a copy of this report.