

CDL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 12/2/63

ROBERT POSTLETHWAIT, Bartender, Mart Cocktail Lounge, Room 115, International Trade Mart, 124 Camp Street, advised that he has worked as bartender at this lounge for more than 13 years. He stated that he regularly works from 9 AM until 6 PM and added that seldom does he leave the International Trade Mart during his working day. He stated that he recalled an incident involving several persons who supposedly were passing out handbills in front of the International Trade Mart sometime during August, 1963, but he explained that he had not observed any of these activities, and the only basis for all information in his possession was a report that a customer had given him on this occasion.

POSTLETHWAIT was furnished several photographs made available to the FBI by radio station WDSU which depicted persons passing out handbills at 124 Camp Street on August 16, 1963. He advised that he was unable to pick out any of the individuals represented in these photographs with the exception of JOHN ALICE, who he said operated an Import-export firm at the Trade Mart, and likewise picked out a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD whom he said he recognized from television and newspaper coverage of the assassination of the President.

On 12/2/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69
 by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK 415 /mrk Date dictated 12/2/63

Robert Postlethwait

CD6, p.415, Oswald's literature distribution, John Alice, WDSU

Superficially, this is the kind of person the FBI would seek out. He is also the kind they would seek out to avoid getting information while building statistics. What he is quoted as saying is inconsistent with either the FBI showing him all the available pictures or his truthfulness, for there were others who were quartered in the building and should have been known to him included in them.

Perhaps insignificant, there is no interview with Alice in this series of reports. His business, the kind one might expect to be located in such a building, is also the kind that would have brought him in contact with or required knowledge of both Clay Shaw and Mario Bermudez.

I have no knowledge of Postlethwait, but I do know that the percentage of New Orleans bartenders who are gay is rather large and that there was a circle of such men at the ITM, of which those named above were among the best known. It was anything but secret.

By this time the FBI certainly had rumors of Oswald's possible homosexual connections, it certainly had interviewed Andrews, it certainly was looking for a homosexual mother-hen whose first name was "Clay".