

To: Jim Garrison
From: Harold Weisberg
Subject: Conversation with Mrs. Cerniglia

12/29/67

I was able to get no help in my efforts to locate Father Mechann. So, when I tried to locate him for myself (and I'll have another memo on this), I phoned Mrs. Cerniglia. Conversation and understanding were not facilitated by the gurglings and other loud but incomprehensible utterings of the infant grandchild on her lap and close to the phone.

Of Manuel Garcia Gonzalez, she says her files show he was in Cuba until 1964, that he then was rescued at sea, landed at Gulfport, and was then photographed. The picture appeared in the States-Item. Hoke should be able to get it from the morgue. I asked her to check two other names in this connection (Hal Verb's letter to me, of which I gave Tom a copy, dated 12/13/67) I asked her about one Luis Moreno and Gaston, of whom I gave her the data in Hal's letter. Luis Moreno, she says, is a very common name. There is one by this name then registered in New Orleans. The lead on Gaston was slim, with no last name, but she'd check it.

Her records include all acts in which her people have been involved. She said both ways on making me copies of those relating to acts during the period in which we are interested. If this had not been done, I'd suggest that someone go over them. I have no doubt she will grant access. She may have misgivings about giving copies. She was both ways on this. I am under the impression that she finally said she'd make the copies, send them to me for me to go over, and after I annotated them, I'd send them to you. My recollection may be wrong, or she may change her mind if I understood her to agree. In any event, I've heard nothing further from her, which is not unusual, with the advent of the holidays.

* picture that appeared in Miami papers labelled as that of Manuel Garcia Gonzalez was not of him.

She knows Ricardo Davis. She saw him with a second man at what, in my miserable writing seems to be what it cannot be, the Housed Lee Lunch (remote chance it could be Howard). They were talking of planes and landings. She called the FBI and reported this (I did not get data). I recall no such FBI report on Ricardo Davis. If Tom ever came across anything like it, he never mentioned it to me. If it has not been done, I suggest she be shown pictures of Ferris, even though it would seem she'd know him from the papers. She also saw another "little" man with Davis. He and Arcacha were "real chummy". This may have been Carlos Quiroga.

When Arcacha first got to New Orleans he went to see Dr. Ralph Sanchez (she got this name, I think, from her husband, who is a physician), I understood as a patient.

She says she has good relations with Carlos Bringuier. She said she'd ask him for the license number of the car he reported for Ruperto and Evaristo. I do not think he'll give it to her, but I believe it could be a very valuable lead. (Have you ever considered issuing a subpoena for all of Carlos' extensive papers? I understand he has a record of everything he has ever done, but not, I would imagine, the pictures of him leading "Yankee Go Home" parades in Havana, reported to Crest Pena by Cuban sailors.)

Should I hear anything from her, I'll let you know.

Manuel Garcia Gyzles -
stayed in Cuba - came to
Guantanamo 1964 when he was
picked up at sea - ^{magnum} in S-1
Luis Moreno - the registered MO
now - common name

Has scars on all arms in her
scars

Put her in Miami not my
Manuel Garcia
will try to ~~send~~ send me copies

Jay Davis + send man -
Housed 2x Lunch
talking of planes, landings

She called FBI - she should
be known (Finn)

another little man (with Davis)
Cecilia + ~~the~~ "real chimney"

The little man with a was C. G.
Anche went to see doctor -

Dr. Ralph Sunday - when
he first got to H. O.

Will ask Carlos for license no

Mrs. Annig Lea