

~~XXXXXXXX~~ 5/7/67

Dear Jim,

The enclosures are self-explanatory. My haste in writing what may seem a cryptic letter may not be, but I have appointments early this morning in Washington that will take the entire day. Other past-due obligations will keep me too busy for a lengthy letter for more than several weeks.

Before going down there I wrote Colonel Castorr again. He was away, his wife opened and read the letter and phoned me, and as a consequence he and I lunched in the Army-Navy Club in Washington Friday. They both came up here later yesterday afternoon and remained until about one this morning. I believe his ^{Spanish} ~~English~~ that he ever engaged in gun running. They were careful to distinguish between rumor, which they labelled, and what they seemed to recall. As a consequence I think Mrs. Lucille Connell and Father Machann (the right spelling) might be of more interest to you and I am more than ever convinced of the story of The False Oswald and of the participation in it of Hall and Howard, particularly from their recollections of Hall, whose character is remarkably like that of the Deen tape from her description.

If one of your more sensitive and delicate men, possibly a lawyer (and maybe Bill Martin, who could converse with him in Spanish if Machann were embarrassed by anyone overhearing them) were to speak to Machann in a way that indicated the priest may have involuntarily been innocently involved in a scandal that was probably non-scandalous and also involved Sylvia Odio and Lucille Connell, I think he might have interesting information to offer, for this seems to have happened, from what Mrs. Castorr was careful to identify as rumor she had heard. It seems as though Machann either got drunk or was drugged somehow and such a thing was staged, inferentially by Mrs. Connell, about whom the Castorr's have deep misgivings. In evaluating this please bear in mind the strange beliefs of the radical right that the Castorr's hold and which, I believe, can color their concepts of reality.

According to them, Mrs. Connell often flashed large sums of money. They are willing to believe she could have been CIA and so said. I have no way of evaluating this, but eventually a large part of what they said can be checked out. When I can type up my notes of this long meeting there will be other names.

At times that coincide with the FBI reports I quote men of the approximate description of those reports were in Dallas and engaged in public activity, (including TV speech-making (recall Sylvia's testimony on television that Liebler had no interest in). The speaker of the group is remarkably like the FBI description of Hall. In describing and referring to him she kept indicating prominence to the hair in the front and each of her hands went up to the side of the middle of her head while she spoke, as did Sylvia, of a recession of the hair, as though there was on the top or toward the back a recession or a bald spot. This TV broadcast was part of a large fund-raising rally at which Hall apparently spoke. There is a long-shot that someone in Dallas may recall this or that there was newspaper coverage. Were one to check the ~~news~~ papers, I'd suggest going both ways from December 1, 1963.

They loaned me a 1964 Dallas phone book and in checking for the spelling of names and addresses Mrs. Castorr repeatedly commented that a number of their acquaintances seem to have disappeared from it. She also used and checked for the name FERRAE (phon), which is also like the reports, in connection with Sylvia's hysterectomy and strongly suggested of an affair, as a man who arranged for Sylvia to spend her convalescence with people named Rogers and her subsequent move to Miami.

These characters seem also to have been at the home of the now-deceased Ed Schville, a wealthy radical righter, within a day or two of the Sunday Walker meeting in October and at a forum meeting that was taped in September. She cannot identify them from the Pizzo and Bringuier exhibits. Her version is much more indicative of DRE than JURE association and of excellent Dallas connections.

On gun-running the colonel quotes Walker as saying Dallas was a center.

She often referred to Sarah Castillo and something the FBI reports do not, of the accompanying of these men by a beautiful and intelligent woman from Miami whose possible name I have.

The White Rock Lake meeting had Sylvie giving the invocation. These men were there also. Mrs. C's description of the second man is not nearly as tall as the first, usually silent, and chunky.

The hospital Cuban of the Rowley 5/5/64 letter may have been one Sanchez, who had a friend possibly named Rodriguez.

She started to talk of Augustin Quintart and never came back to him.

There are some seemingly mysterious Connell-Odio letters Sylvie left behind when she left the Rogers home that Mrs. R gave to Mrs. C who gave them to Lt. Butler of the Dallas police, who also has the tape referred to above (which was widely duplicated by a husband-wife pair of chiropractors active in the forum-sold as a money-raising device). These letters may have been written from Boston, where Mrs. Connell had a doctor-son.

Machann saw the assassination -reporting on TV from in his parents' home and left apparently in shock and was shortly thereafter hospitalized-small Dallas hospital.

The Hall-forum meeting was October 1 at the same time Mrs. Costor was speaking elsewhere with Machann and Martino. It was held in a bank building in an area known as Farmers branch. The speaker was excited when he learned he was being taped and tried unsuccessfully to get the tape, threatening even to use the karate in which he claimed to be brown belt. He said in his speech that Kennedy was coming to Dallas soon and "we'll get him, one way or another". The man who made the tapes of these meetings lived in Irving. 1964 yellow section should identify, if Mrs. Costor does not remember.

There is an elderly man named Glen Myers, Meadow Road, a World War I submarine commander, engaged in gun-running. North Dallas off of Preston. Fits October doings from FBI reports.

I am now already late and went to mail this in Washington to save two days in getting it to you. I think it might be significant. I shall ask her, after she has had time to think of what we discussed and I recalled to her memory, to speak to me again and before a tape machine.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg