

9/13/68

Mr. Bill Bertin
411 Lowerline St.,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Bill,

When you introduced me to Carlos, I believe you or he said he was the New Orleans delegate of RECE. It is for this reason I am writing, to get you to ask him, perhaps to help him, to prepare a memo for me on how RECE and Jose Duarte and Dr. Fernando Penabaz brought to light what they did on Sirhan Sirhan.

Because of this, I would like to know all I can about Duarte and Penabaz. Penabaz, at the time of the JFK assassination and thereafter, had much to say about it. Some of what I have seen sounds as though Bringuier wrote it, but I have not seen all of it and it may well be that he had some solid information. Were I to write him directly, I doubt he'd answer, suspecting that I begin with an adverse ~~pre~~ prejudice. Perhaps, if he does not have it, Carlos can arrange to get this for me. I prefer to ask him because he is a man not like some of the others, as you know, and I feel anything he says would be dependable.

I'd really like to have all the available copies of Penabaz's publication, "Insight on the News", in which he made some mention of Duarte-Sirhan in a July issue. It is possible he has printed material the significance of which he did not know.

You stay busy, of course, but I really think you should make detailed memoranda of some of the things you told me. They may well have considerable historical interest. I would appreciate copies if you do this, not so much for publication but for this purpose, for I expect my files to end as part of an archive at a major university, an unofficial archive.

Unlike Bringuier, Penabaz seems to have had a solid law practice before leaving Cuba, with some of the more important American companies as his clients. I understand he was also a government official.

I do think everyone's interest is served by my knowing everything possible, in as much detail as possible, for there is a possibility of official interest. I think it would be best for me to know everything before this official interest arises. I know little of Duarte, save that he was an officer. I know less of RECE than I like, most of the knowledge being what Carlos told me that night in your home. However, this might involve them in an investigation of the Bobby murder.

Wish I thought I'd be down there soon. Best regards, and thanks,

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg