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1/27/64

Airtel

To: SAC, Indianapolis (105-3399)

From: Director, FBI (105-82555)

LEE HARVEY OSWALD
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Oswald has been identified as passenger on Mexican "Red Arrow" bus traveling from Nuevo Laredo to Mexico City from afternoon 9/26 to morning 9/27/63. Dr. and Mrs. John McFarland of Liverpool, England, who sat in front of Oswald, stated subject told them he was Secretary of FPCC in New Orleans and was on way to Mexico City en route Cuba to meet Castro, as he could not get to Cuba from United States. According to McFarlands, Oswald sat next to 80-year-old male United States citizen who looked to be in 60's and who claimed to have lived in Mexico and Tennessee. This individual said he was retired schoolteacher who taught in India and Arabia and was writing book on Lisbon Earthquake of 1775.

En route to Mexico City, two young women, Patricia Winston and Pamela Mumford, boarded bus evening 9/26/63 at Monterrey. Oswald told them he lived in Russia for two years and had hard time getting out; said he had been to Japan; did not indicate he was traveling to Cuba; said he was from Fort Worth or Dallas. According to girls, subject traveled alone; carried one piece of luggage, small zipper bag. He recommended girls stay at Hotel Cuba, Mexico City, as he stayed there several times before and it was inexpensive; told them he was not staying at Hotel Cuba this trip. According to girls, sitting next to Oswald was an Englishman who lived in Mexico for 30 years; who was in late 60's; heavy build, greying hair, balding, who had English accent and who was believed retired. En route this individual, who is believed to be identical with the elderly male described by the McFarlands, commented to effect, "This young man appears to have been in Mexico before."

Enclosures 4

cc - Dallas (105-10461)

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MAILED 3
JAN 25 1964
COMM-FBI

79 JAN 29 1964

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

EX-115

Handwritten signatures and initials

REC-56

1507

22 JAN 28 1964

Handwritten notes and stamps

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Check at Hotel Cuba failed to locate record of Oswald as guest from June, 1962, through 10/3/63. Oswald known to have been registered at Hotel Del Comercio, Mexico City, from 9/27 through 10/1/63. Believed he stayed at hotel night of 10/1/63 and that he traveled from Mexico City to Nuevo Laredo by bus between morning 10/2/63 through early morning 10/3/63 when he arrived at Nuevo Laredo.

The elderly male sitting next to Oswald during 9/26/63 - 9/27/63 trip to Mexico City is believed to be male traveling under name John Howard Bowen. Two photographs of male said to be Bowen, enclosed herewith, have been obtained from newspaper morgue, Knoxville. Winston and Mumford stated male depicted in sun hat not known to them but they believed man wearing suit standing in front of stone building is identical with elderly male sitting next to Oswald on bus.

Enclosed are copies of self-explanatory cables Legat, Mexico City, dated 1/21 and 1/23/64. Note that Bowen appears to be identical to one Albert (Alberto) Osborne, Baptist missionary at Texmelucan, Mexico, who was interviewed at Texmelucan 1/7/64, at which time he furnished false information concerning Bowen and his travel in United States. If dual identity has been assumed by Osborne, reason for this not known, but from information developed by Knoxville it would appear that Osborne may have been utilizing dual identity for many years. Records Identification Division negative re Osborne or Bowen. Bufiles show that Albert Osborne, born 11/12/1898 at Grimsby, England, who in 1958 was Canadian citizen and clergyman, was subject of PCFM investigation in 1958 based on suspicion of Mexican authorities as to his bona fides. Investigation Canada developed only that Osborne was issued Canadian passport 1953 when residing at YMCA, Vancouver, and was granted landed status in Canada in July, 1917.

In early January, John Howard Bowen contacted acquaintance at Laredo, Texas, and advised that he had been interviewed by FBI in Mexico and was en route to Austin for further interview.

Interview Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Dykes identified in Legat, 1/23/64, cable to develop all available background data concerning Osborne, aka Bowen. Display enclosed photographs in effort to identify. Ascertain if Dykes' have any information concerning question of dual identity and reason therefor. Endeavor to locate Osborne and set lead for interview. Interview is to establish all background data re Osborne; whether or not he has used dual identity and reason

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therefor, and why he misrepresented identity to Legat when interviewed 1/7/64. Interview is to develop all information he has concerning Oswald during trip to Mexico City via "Red Arrow" bus and activities of Oswald while in Mexico between 9/27 and morning 10/2/63. Ascertain when Osborne returned to Texmelucan after arrival Mexico City 9/27/63 and if he remained in Mexico City prior to returning to his residence. Develop facts as to his place of residence and activities Mexico City. Osborne is also to be questioned concerning representations he made to McFarlands en route Mexico City and as to the basis of his remark concerning Oswald's prior travel to Mexico.