

4/19/70

Gary and Paul,

In what may be only coincidence but strikes me rather as an excess of puerile vindictiveness, I got, by costly registered mail, return receipt and all that (not requested) the first prompt reply to any Archives communication in several years, the missing pages from my last order, from the Report drafts file, showing Liebler's last-minute alterations. They knew my financial situation, I suppose, and delight in worsening it, even in small ways. But there was no need to have omitted it from the order, for I'd ordered that first of all, by phone, and there was no need to waste my buck with registration or the receipt to them.

If these pages are not inconsistent with the essence of what Liebler said at UCLA--you've heard my tape of it--they also are not exactly in accord with it. He said he sent it over on a yellow pad. This is neatly typed and the typing is corrected, in a hand than can be his.

It discloses a petty prejudice against Odio and a strong unwillingness to believe her, mixed with literary devices to undermine her testimony, in the original. The original, before they got the last-minute FBI word, for example, referred to the "alleged visit". Afterward, "alleged" was deleted. Now whether or not it was Oswald, they had no doubt of such a visit. It was confirmed and unchallenged. Where it said she "reportedly" saw them in the hallway it was changed to "and who stated that she "saw them etc.

I suppose that when I get back to AGENT OSWALD I'll go over this more carefully. There are remaining questions. Liebler didn't change the pages, but his changes did change the next subsection, "Oswald Was Not a Government Agent".

I do not think it now worth the time and cost of duplicating these for you. All of the bottom half of original page 323 was eliminated. It deals with LHO's departure from MO and his travels. All of 324 was replaced. So was the top half of 325. They did not send the final page of the original passages. I'll ask simply because I wonder why.

One of the items of minor interest I believe entirely eliminated was on 324: "...two persons have related that she previously stated that she also ~~xxx~~ saw the man at ~~xx~~ anti-Castro group meetings". The stricken-through footnotes seem to be to CE2001, 3102. On 325 there was a distorted version of Odio not recognizing LHO until she saw his picture, whereas, as we know, Sylvia associated the assassination with the visit and zenked out. It quotes Annie as saying she did not make the association until Sylvia told her, which may be the case but is not my recollection of some of the testimony. And it has the strange, prejudicial line: "There is no indication that Mrs. Odio mentioned the alleged visit prior to the assassination". Is there any reason in the world why she should have? This is followed by, "Finally, investigation among anti-Castro organization members has revealed no familiarity in these circles with a person matching the description of either Oswald or of the 'Leopoldo' to whom Mrs. Odio referred". Here the original footnote read, "CE 2943 p.8; CE1414, 3119". I will not now check this, but this has to be a special kind of Liebler frivolity. There was no such investigation anyway. My recollection of 1414 and 3119 is that they are SS MO reports. CE2943 is the Rowley letter on Machann. In short, Liebler wrote a dishonest footnote pretending there was an investigation among anti-Castro groups in Dallas looking for both whereas there was none, and he pretends no such persons existed when they did, as the last-minute penic proved. What a sample of the dependability of the writing and its reflection of both the "evidence" and that was called "investigation".

HW

4/18/70

Dr. James Woods, Archivist
The National Archives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Woods,

Thank you for the pages from the "page proof" file, omitted and now received. I did not order it sent at the added cost of registration, with return receipt to you and have not asked that anything be sent at this added cost in a very long time. I would prefer that you not undergo this added cost unless I ask it.

What you sent is not quite complete. There was more citation than Mr. Liebler indicated. In the original request I asked for all the changes in and required by the changes in the subsection "Alleged association with various Mexican or Cuban individuals". I believe in requesting it I did refer to page 328, which is an error. It appears in the printed report beginning on page 331. Before final editing, this passage extended past the bottom of page 328, the last of the edited pages sent me.

I would appreciate what is missing is what you sent me that will enable me to understand all changes this change required, in the preceding and following sections as well as in the above-titled one.

Also, Mr. Liebler referred to his having written these changes on a yellow pad. The changes sent me are typed. I recognize that Mr. Liebler's recollection may have been faulty, but it is also possible that they are accurate. Therefore, if such changes exist, Mr. Liebler's, in writing, I'd like them also.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

duced to Mrs. Odio as "Leon Oswald," and she was told that he was very much interested in the Cuban cause.⁷¹⁹ Mrs. Odio said that the men told her that they had just come from New Orleans and that they were then about to leave on a trip.⁷²¹ Mrs. Odio testified that the next day Leopoldo called her on the telephone and told her that it was his idea to introduce the American into the underground "because he is great, he is kind of nuts."⁷¹⁵ Leopoldo also said that the American had been in the Marine Corps and was an excellent shot, and that the American said the Cubans "don't have any guts" * * * because President Kennedy should have been assassinated after the Bay of Pigs, and some Cubans should have done that, because he was the one that was holding the freedom of Cuba actually."⁷¹⁶

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Although Mrs. Odio suggested doubts that the men were in fact members of JURE,⁷¹⁷ she is certain that the American who was introduced to her as Leon Oswald was Lee Harvey Oswald.⁷¹⁸ Her sister, who was in the apartment at the time of the ~~visit~~ visit by the three men, ~~she~~ saw them briefly in the hallway when answering the door, also believed that the American was Lee Harvey Oswald.⁷¹⁹ By referring to the date on which she moved from her former apartment, October 1, 1963, Mrs. Odio fixed the date of the alleged visit on the Thursday or Friday immediately preceding that date, i.e., September 26 or 27. She was positive that the visit occurred prior to October 1.⁷²⁰

Insert folios 01-02 here

~~It is clear, however, that Oswald could not have been in Dallas on the evening of either September 26 or 27, 1963, and there is considerable evidence that he was not in Dallas anytime between the beginning of September and October 3, 1963. On April 24, Oswald left Dallas for New Orleans, where he lived until his trip to Mexico City in late September and his subsequent return to Dallas. As previously set forth, Oswald is known to have been in New Orleans as late as September 23, 1963, the date on which Mrs. Paine and Marina Oswald left New Orleans for Dallas.⁷²¹ Sometime between 4 p.m. on September 24 and 1 p.m. on September 25, Oswald cashed an unemployment compensation check at a store in New Orleans;⁷²² under normal procedures this check would not have reached Oswald's postal box in New Orleans until at least 5 a.m. on September 25,⁷²³ and the store at which he cashed the check did not open until 8 a.m.⁷²⁴ Therefore, Oswald's presence in New Orleans until sometime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on September 25 seems well established.~~

~~There is no firm evidence of the means by which Oswald traveled from New Orleans to Houston on the first leg of his Mexico City trip, but a Continental Trailways bus leaving New Orleans at 12:30 p.m. on September 25 would have brought Oswald to Houston at 10:50 p.m. that evening,⁷²⁵ and his presence on this bus would be consistent with other evidence before the Commission.⁷²⁶ There is evidence, however, that at 2:35 a.m. on September 26, Oswald boarded Continental Trailways bus No. 5133 in Houston and traveled on this bus to Laredo, Tex. Bus company records disclose that one ticket from Houston to Laredo was sold during the night shift on September 25-26, which was the~~

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During the course of its investigation, however, the Commission concluded that Oswald could not have been in Dallas on the evening of either September 26 or 27, 1963. It also developed considerable evidence that he was not in Dallas/^{at}anytime between the beginning of September and October 3, 1963. On April 24, Oswald left Dallas for New Orleans, where he lived until his trip to Mexico City in late September and his subsequent return to Dallas. As previously set forth, Oswald is known to have been in New Orleans as late as September 23, 1963, the date on which Mrs. Peine and Marina Oswald left New Orleans for Dallas. ^{721/} Sometime between 4 p.m. on September 24 and 1 p.m. on September 25, Oswald cashed an unemployment compensation check at a store in New Orleans; ^{722/} under normal procedures this check would not have reached Oswald's postal box in New Orleans until at least 5 a.m. on September 25. ^{723/} The store at which he cashed the check did not open until 8 a.m. ^{724/} Therefore, it appeared that Oswald's presence in New Orleans until sometime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on September 25 was ^{quite firmly} established.

^{725/} ~~Although~~ there is no firm evidence of the means by which Oswald traveled from New Orleans to Houston, on the first leg of his Mexico City trip, the Commission noted that a Continental Trailways bus leaving New Orleans at 12:30 p.m. on September 25 would have brought Oswald to Houston at 10:50 p.m. that evening. ^{726/} His presence on this bus is consistent with other evidence before the Commission. There is evidence, however, that ~~at 2:35 a.m. on September 26, Oswald boarded T. Travel~~

Continental Trailways bus No. 5133, ~~which arrived in Houston and departed on this bus~~
 which left Houston at
 2:35 a.m. for

Laredo, Tex. Bus company records disclose that one ticket from Houston to Laredo was sold during the night shift on September 25-26, and that such ticket was the

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only one of its kind sold in the period of September 24 through September 26. The agent who sold this ticket has stated that Oswald could have been the purchaser. ⁷²⁷ Two English passengers, Dr. and Mrs. John B. McFarland, testified that they saw Oswald riding alone on this bus ~~when~~ ^{shortly after} they awoke at 6 a.m. ⁷²⁸ The bus was scheduled to arrive in Laredo at 1:20 p.m. on September 26, and Mexican immigration records show that Oswald in fact crossed the border at Laredo to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. on that day. ⁷²⁹ Evidence set out in appendix XIII establishes that Oswald did not leave Mexico until October 3, and that he arrived in Dallas the same day.

only such ticket sold in the period of September 24 through September 26, and the agent who sold this ticket has stated that Oswald could have been the purchaser.⁷²⁷ Two English passengers, Dr. and Mrs. John B. McFarland, testified that they saw Oswald riding alone on this bus when they awoke at 6 a.m.⁷²⁸ The bus was scheduled to arrive in Laredo at 1:20 p.m. on September 26, and Mexican immigration records show that Oswald in fact crossed the border at Laredo to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. on that day.⁷²⁹ Evidence set out in appendix XIII establishes that Oswald did not leave Mexico until October 3, and that he arrived in Dallas the same day.

Hence, the only time not strictly accounted for during this period is the span between the morning of September 25 and 2:35 a.m. on September 26. Because of the distances, the only public means of transportation by which Oswald could have traveled from New Orleans to Dallas and then caught the bus from Houston to Laredo, would have been the airlines, and investigation has disclosed no indication that he flew between these points.⁷³⁰ Moreover, it does not seem probable that Oswald would speed from New Orleans, spend a short time talking to Sylvia Odio, and then travel from Dallas to Mexico City and back on the bus. Automobile travel in the time available, though perhaps possible, would have been difficult.⁷³¹ Had Oswald nonetheless reached Dallas on the evening of September 25, bus schedules are such that he could have traveled by bus to Alice, Tex., and there caught the Houston bus to Laredo.⁷³² However, there is no evidence in the busline records that he traveled by this route, and if he had done so, he would not have reached the bus until after he was first reportedly observed by the McFarlands.⁷³³ Oswald told passengers on the bus to Laredo that he had traveled from New Orleans by bus, and made no mention of an intervening trip to Dallas.⁷³⁴ And there is evidence that on the evening of September 25, Oswald made a telephone call to a party in Houston proposing to visit a resident of Houston that evening;⁷³⁵ such a call would be inconsistent with Oswald having been in Dallas at the time. In short, the evidence is persuasive that Oswald was not in Dallas on September 25, and therefore that he was not in that city at the time Mrs. Odio claims she saw him.

Several discrepancies in Mrs. Odio's testimony provide further reason why her allegations cannot be accepted. Although Mrs. Odio testified that the only occasion on which she saw the man claimed to be Oswald was the visit in question,⁷³⁶ two persons have related that she previously stated that she also saw the man at anti-Castro group meetings.⁷³⁷ A third friend of Mrs. Odio, the Reverend Walter J. McClendon, related that prior to the date on which Mrs. Odio testified, she told him the name of the third person who was present with Oswald at the alleged visit.⁷³⁸ In fact, the individual who was named had contacted Mrs. Odio in June 1963 in regard to anti-Castro activities, but not in September.⁷³⁹ During her subsequent testimony, Mrs. Odio did volunteer information about the June visit, and then ex-

9) The Commission noted that the only time not strictly accounted for during the period that Mrs. Odio thought Oswald might have visited her is the span between the morning of September 25 and 2:35 a.m. on September 26. The only public means of transportation by which Oswald could have traveled from New Orleans to Dallas in time to catch his bus from Houston to Laredo, would have been the airlines. Investigation disclosed no indication that he flew between these points. ⁷³⁰ Moreover, it did not seem probable that Oswald would speed from New Orleans, spend a short time talking to Sylvia Odio, and then travel from Dallas to Mexico City and back on the bus. Automobile travel in the time available, though perhaps

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possible, would have been difficult. ⁷³¹ The Commission noted, however, that if Oswald had reached Dallas on the evening of September 25, he could have traveled by bus to Alice, Tex., and there caught the bus which had left Houston at 2:35 a.m. on September 26, 1963. ⁷³² For Laredo, Further investigation in that regard indicated, however, that no tickets were sold, ^{during the period} September 23-26, 1963 for travel from Dallas to Laredo or points beyond by the Dallas office of Continental Trailways, the ^{only} bus line on which Oswald ^{could have} ~~would have had to have traveled to have made~~ connections with the bus on which he was later seen. Furthermore, if Oswald had traveled from Dallas to Alice, he would not have reached the Houston to Laredo bus until after he was first reportedly observed on it by the McFarlands. ⁷³³ Oswald had also told passengers on the bus to Laredo that he had traveled from New Orleans by bus, and made no mention of an intervening trip to Dallas. ⁷³⁴ In addition, the Commission noted evidence that on the evening of September 25, ¹⁹⁶³ Oswald made a telephone call to a party in Houston proposing to visit a resident of Houston that evening ⁷³⁵ and the fact that such a call would appear to be inconsistent with Oswald ^{if} having been in Dallas at the time. It ^{was} appeared that the evidence was persuasive that Oswald was not in Dallas on September 25, and, therefore, that he was not in that city at the time Mrs. Odio said she saw him.

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plained that Father McChann must have confused the two visits.⁷⁶⁰ However, this third name had been obtained by Father McChann when he telephoned Mrs. Odio at the request of a Secret Service inspector for the specific purpose of urging Mrs. Odio to reveal all information in regard to the alleged Oswald visit, so that it is unlikely that confusion would have developed over any other visit.⁷⁶¹

Inconsistencies also exist between the testimony of Sylvia Odio and her sister Annie. While Sylvia stated that at the time of the visit she was getting dressed to leave the apartment and her sister was planning to babysit, the sister has stated both she and Sylvia were in the process of dressing when the visitors arrived.⁷⁶² Both women related that upon seeing Oswald's picture after the assassination, they immediately felt the face looked familiar. Sylvia Odio stated that she immediately recognized Oswald as the American who had been in their apartment in September. However, whereas Annie states that she herself did not associate the two faces until Sylvia pointed this out,⁷⁶³ Sylvia testified that her sister's reaction to it when Oswald came on television, she almost passed out on the spot. Her reaction was so obvious that it was him, I mean.⁷⁶⁴ One close friend stated that Mrs. Odio is "highly dramatic and she may be building up her belief in an association of Oswald out of all proportion to what it was, if, in fact, there was any."⁷⁶⁵ There is no indication that Mrs. Odio mentioned the alleged visit to anyone prior to the assassination.⁷⁶⁶ Finally, investigation among anti-Castro organization members has revealed no familiarity in these circles with a person matching the description of either Oswald or of the "Republican" to whom Mrs. Odio referred.⁷⁶⁷

The Commission has also noted the testimony of Evaristo Rodriguez, a bartender in the Habana Bar in New Orleans, to the effect that he saw Oswald in that bar in August of 1963 in the company of a Latin-appearing man.⁷⁶⁸ Rodriguez' description of the man accompanying the person he thought to be Oswald was similar in respects to the description given by Sylvia Odio since both testified that the man may have been of either Cuban or Mexican extraction, and had a slight bald spot on the forepart of his hairline.⁷⁶⁹ Rodriguez' identification of Oswald was uncorroborated except for the testimony of the owner of the bar, Orest Pena; according to Rodriguez, Pena was not in a position to observe the man he thought later to have been Oswald.⁷⁷⁰ Although Pena has testified that he did observe the same person as did Rodriguez, and that this person was Oswald,⁷⁷¹ an FBI interview report indicates that a month earlier Pena had stated that he "could not at this time or at any time say whether or not the person was identical with Lee Harvey Oswald."⁷⁷² Though when testifying, Pena identified photographs of Oswald, the FBI report also records that Pena "stated the only reason he was able to recognize Oswald was because he had seen Oswald's picture in the news media so often after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy."⁷⁷³ When present at Pena's bar, Oswald was supposed to have been intoxicated to the extent that he became ill,⁷⁷⁴ which is inconsistent with other evidence that Oswald did not drink alcoholic beverages to excess.⁷⁷⁵

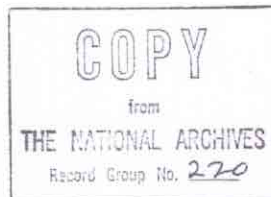
9) In spite of the fact that it appeared almost certain that Oswald could not have been in Dallas at the time Mrs. Odio thought he was, the Commission requested the FBI to conduct whatever investigation was necessary to determine the validity of Mrs. Odio's testimony. ^{736/}

The Commission considered the problems raised by Mrs. Odio's testimony as important in view of the possibility it raised that Oswald may have had companions on his trip to Mexico. ^{737/} The Commission specifically requested the FBI to attempt to locate and identify the two men who Mrs. Odio stated were with the man she thought was Oswald. ^{738/} In an effort to ~~locate these men~~ ^{the FBI} located and interviewed Manuel Ray, a leader of JURE who confirmed that Mrs. Odio's parents were political prisoners in Cuba, but stated that he did not know anything about the alleged Oswald visit. ^{739/} The same was true of Rogelio Cisneros, ^{740/} a former anti-Castro leader from Miami who had visited Mrs. Odio in June of 1962 in connection with certain anti-Castro activities. ^{741/}

Additional investigation was conducted in Dallas and in other cities in search of the visitors to Mrs. Odio's apartment. ^{742/} Mrs. Odio herself was reinterviewed. ^{743/}

9) On September 16, 1964, the FBI located Loran Eugene Hall in Johnsandale, California. ^{744/} Hall has been identified as a participant in numerous anti-Castro activities. ^{745/} He told the FBI that in September of 1963 he was in Dallas, ~~that~~ ^{and} soliciting and in connection with anti-Castro activities. He said he had visited Mrs. Odio. He was accompanied by Lawrence Howard, a Mexican-American from East Los Angeles and one

William Seymour from Arizona. He stated that Seymour is similar in appearance to Lee Harvey Oswald; he speaks only a few words of Spanish, ^{746/} as Mrs. Odio had testified one of the men who visited her did. ^{747/} While the FBI had not yet completed its investigation into this matter at the time the report went to press, the Commission has concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald was not at Mrs. Odio's apartment in September of 1963.



*Records of the President's Commission on the Assassination
of President Kennedy*

Page proof for Report; pages 323-325

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NOTES TO PAGES 00-00

675. See footnote 708 infra; cf. CE 2299.
 676. 10 H 365 (V. Davis); CE 2945.
 677. 10 H 362 (S. Wood); 281-282 (Slack); CE 2909 (Slack); 10 H 358 (F. Davis).
 678. *Ibid.*; 10 H 365-366 (V. Davis); 373 (M. Price); CE 2909, 2977.
 679. CE 2897; CE 2898, pp. 110-117.
 680. 10 H 373-374 (M. Price); 392, 395-397 (S. Wood); 381-382 (Slack); CE 2912, 2913.
 681. CE 129; 3 H 392-396 (Robert A. Frazier).
 682. 10 H 370 (M. Price); 386 (H. Wood); 391-392 (S. Wood); cf. 10 H 380 (Slack).
 683. 10 H 374 (M. Price); 382 (Slack); 392 (S. Wood); see also CE 2916, 2935, 2935.
 684. 10 H 374 (M. Price); 382 (Slack); 685. 10 H 386 (H. Wood); 392 (S. Wood); CE 2924, 2917.
 686. CE 129; 3 H 392-396 (Frazier).
 687. 10 H 374 (M. Price); 382 (Slack); 4 H 257 (Doy); CE 129; 10 H 365 (S. Wood).
 688. 10 H 374 (M. Price); 3 H 294 (Frazier); CE 541, pp. 3, 4.
 689. 10 H 372-373 (M. Price).
 690. See pp. 315-316, supra, Ch. IV, pp. 113-122.
 691. 10 H 365 (S. Wood); 382 (Slack).
 692. 10 H 370-371 (M. Price); 391 (S. Wood); 395 (F. Davis); *id.* cf. CE 2919.
 693. CE 2921, 2918, 2905, 2920, 3049.
 694. *Id.*; 2 H 226-228, 241 (Boed W. Frazier); 10 H 297 (Mrs. A. C. Johnson); 6 H 426 (Mary Bledsoe); CE 2922.
 695. See 10 H 352-356 (Albert Gay Bogard).
 696. In addition to corroborating evidence discussed in text, it is to be noted that on Feb. 24, 1964, Mr. Bogard was interviewed by the FBI in regard to his allegation with the use of a polygraph. No significant emotional responses were recorded by the polygraph when Bogard was asked relevant questions concerning his report. The responses recorded were those normally expected of a person telling the truth. CE 2957. However, a commission with the aid of a polygraph test was assigned to the use of polygraph test results. *Id.*; supra; app. A, pp. 10, 11. *Id.* infra, the Commission has placed its reliance upon those results; however, the results generated have caused the Commission to investigate Mr. Bogard's claim with special care.
 697. 10 H 342-345 (Frank Pizzo); CE 2978, p. 7.
 698. CE 2991, 3092.
 699. CE 2971, p. 365.
 700. 10 H 314 (Pizzo); CE 3078, p. 7.
 701. *Ibid.*
 702. See 10 H 334 (Hayd); CE 2971, 2993.
 703. 10 H 346, 350 (Pizzo); CE 3071, p. 2.
 704. CE 2991.
 705. 10 H 347-351 (Pizzo); CE 2970.
 706. CE 2978, p. 7.
 707. 1 H 112-113; 3 H 402; 11 H 280 (Marina Oswald); 8 H 142-143 (R. Murphy); *id.* at 183 (C. Murphy); 2 H 292-293 (R. Oswald); 8 H 399 (E. Hall); 9 H 87 (G. Taylor); 10 H 129-127 (Cunningham); 11 H 56-57 (J. Piv).
 708. 2 H 302-317; 11 H 153-154 (R. Paine).
 709. 2 H 315, 311, 41; 11 H 153-154 (R. Paine); 1 H 58, 82 (Marina Oswald); 7 H 11 (268-309, 373, 376, 377, 379 (Sylvia Odio).
 711. 11 H 370-372, 386 (S. Odio).
 712. *Id.* at 370, 382.

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713. *Id.* at 370-371.
 714. *Id.* at 372.
 715. *Ibid.*
 716. *Id.* at 372-373.
 717. *Id.* at 373-374.
 718. *Id.* at 382, 386.
 719. CE 2997.
 720. 11 H 379, 374 (S. Odio); CE 2942.
 721. 1 H 24 (Marina Oswald); CE 2124, p. 383; CE 405, 4150, pp. 442-444; CE 2125, pp. 476, 477; CE 2479; 10 H 270-277 (Jesse J. Garner).
 722. CE 2141; 2939.
 723. CE 2938, 2939, 2949, 2109, 2131, 2476.
 724. CE 2131, 2939.
 725. CE 2963, 2132, pp. 10-14; CE 2549, 2962.
 726. 1 H 27 (Marina Oswald); 11 H 214 (McFarland); 179-180 (Estelle Twiford); 179 (Horace R. Twiford).
 727. CE 2391, pp. 3-7.
 728. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland).
 729. CE 2193, pp. 1-2; CE 2125, 2566, pp. 2-4; CE 2594.
 730. CE 2138, pp. 12-14; CE 3073, 3086, *Id.* see 11 H 179 (Estelle Twiford).
 731. CE 2990.
 732. CE 2594.
 733. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland); CE 2534.
 734. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland); see also 1 H 27 (Marina Oswald).
 735. 11 H 179-180 (E. Twiford).
 736. 11 H 379-380 (S. Odio).
 737. CE 2991, 3102.
 738. CE 2943, p. 6.
 739. CE 2909.
 740. 11 H 375-376 (S. Odio).
 741. CE 2943, pp. 5-6.
 742. Compare 11 H 370 (S. Odio) with CE 2997.
 743. 11 H 371, 382 (S. Odio).
 744. CE 2997.
 745. 11 H 373, 382 (S. Odio).
 746. CE 29-43, p. 4; see also *id.* at 5, 8; CE 2192, 3101; 11 H 230-231 (S. Odio).
 747. CE 2943, p. 8; CE 1411, 2119.
 748. 11 H 341, 346 (Rodriguez).
 749. Compare 11 H 341-342 (Rodriguez) with 11 H 379, 382-383 (S. Odio).
 750. 11 H 342 (Rodriguez).
 751. 11 H 350-351 (Orest Penn).
 752. CE 2992.
 753. *Id.* at 15; compare 11 H 353-356 (O. Penn).
 754. 11 H 342 (Rodriguez); 351 (O. Penn); CE 2477, p. 19.
 755. 1 H 35, 82, 100 (Marina Oswald); 2 H 187 (R. Paine); 8 H 389 (A. Meher); 9 H 234 (G. De Mohrenschildt); 11 H 150 (H. Gibson).
 756. 11 2991.
 757. *Id.* at 231; CE 2994; CE 2899.
 758. CE 2990, 2991, 3104.
 759. 1 H 112, 131-133, 195, 196, 200 (Marguerite Oswald); *id.* see e.g., 1 H 20, 80 (Marina Oswald); 3 H 108 (H. Paine).
 760. CE 1138, p. 3; 1 H 206 (Marguerite Oswald).
 761. CE 821; 4 H 408-409 (John W. Paine).
 762. 1 H 214 (Marguerite Oswald); see generally footnote 895.
 763. CE 2580, p. 4; 2541.
 764. 8 H 341 (Pauline Bates).
 765. *Ibid.*
 766. 3 H 120-121 (John A. McNamee); *id.* at 121-122 (Richard M. Helms).
 767. CE 870.
 768. 3 H 105, 106 (J. Edgar Hoover); 3 H 14-15, 26-27 (Alan H. Belmont); 4 H 429 (Paine); 4 H 440 (John L. Quigley); 4 H 460 (James P. Hosty).
 769. CE 825.

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675. See footnote 704 infra; cf. CE 2209, 676, 10 H 305 (V. Davis); CE 2041, 477, 10 H 303 (S. Wood); 2751-282 (Slack); CE 2909 (Slack); 10 H 358 (F. Davis).

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678. Ibid.; 10 H 305-306 (V. Davis), 374 (M. Price); CE 2897; CE 2898, pp. 116-117, 680, 10 H 372-374 (M. Price), 392, 393-397 (S. Wood), 381-382 (Slack); CE 2013, 681, CE 139; 3 H 302-306 (Robert A. Frazier).

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682. 10 H 370 (M. Price), 386 (H. Wood), 391-392 (S. Wood); cf. 10 H 380 (Slack).
683. 10 H 374 (M. Price), 382 (Slack), 392 (S. Wood); see also CE 2016, 2035, 2037.

(3133)

685. 10 H 374 (M. Price), 382 (Slack), 392 (S. Wood), 394 (H. Wood), 392 (S. Wood); CE 2024, 2015.

J.C.

688. CE 1397, 3 H 302-296 (Frazier), 151 (Howard L. Bonham); CE 2015, 687, 10 H 374 (M. Price), 382 (Slack); 4 H 257 (Boaty); CE 139; 10 H 305 (S. Wood).

(509-3)

691. 10 H 374 (M. Price); 3 H 304 (Frazier); CE 541, pp. 3, 4.
692. 10 H 372-373 (M. Price), 690. See pp. 313-316, supra, Ch. IV, pp. 112-127.

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691. 10 H 305 (S. Wood), 382 (Slack), 692. 10 H 370-371 (M. Price), 391 (S. Wood), 395 (F. Davis); but cf. CE 2010, 292, CE 2921, 2918, 2905, 2929, 3040, 694, 3 H 2 H 226-229, 241 (Boat W. Frazier); 10 H 297 (Mrs. A. C. Johnson); 6 H 426 (Mary Gibson); CE 2032.

Bogard

694. See 10 H 352-356 (Albert Guy Bogard).

696. In addition to corroborating evidence discussed in text, it is to be noted that on Feb. 24, 1964, Mr. Bogard was interviewed by the FBI in regard to his location with the use of a polygraph. No significant emotional responses were recorded by the polygraph when Bogard was asked relevant questions concerning his report. The responses recorded were those normally expected of a person telling the truth. CE 3021. However, consistent with the policy adopted by the Commission in regard to the use of polygraph test results, see pp. —, supra; app. —, pp. —, infra, the Commission has placed no reliance upon these results, however, the results recorded have caused the Commission to investigate Mr. Bogard's claim with special care.

Id. ar

697. 10 H 342-345 (Frank Pizzo); CE 3078, p. 7.
698. CE 3091, 3092.
699. CE 3071, p. 305.

700. 10 H 314 (Pizzo); CE 3078, p. 7, 201, Ibid.
702. See 10 H 354 (Pizzo); CE 3071, 2929.

703. 10 H 346, 350 (Pizzo); CE 3071, p. 7.
704. CE 3091.
705. 10 H 347-351 (Pizzo); CE 2070, 706. CE 3078, p. 7.

707. 1 H 112-115, 5 H 402, 11 H 280 (Marina Oswald); 8 H 142-143 (E. Murray); Id. at 183 (C. Murray); 2 H 292-293 (R. Oswald); 8 H 200 (E. Hall); 5 H 87 (G. Taylor); 10 H 126-127 (Cunningham); 11 H 56-57 (J. Pate).

708. 2 H 302-317, 11 H 153-154 (R. Paine).
709. 2 H 515, 3H 41, 11 H 153-154 (R. Paine); 1 H 28, 62 (Marina Oswald); 710. 11 H 308-309, 374, 375, 377, 370 (Sylvia Odio).

711. 10 H 370-372, 382 (Slack); 712. Id. at 370, 382.

713. Id. at 370-371.
714. Id. at 372.
715. Ibid.
716. Id. at 372-373.
717. Id. at 373, 377.
718. Id. at 382, 385.
719. CE 2907.

11 H

720. 11 H 370, 374 (S. Odio); CE 2042, 721. 1 H 26 (Marina Oswald); CE 2124, p. 383; CE 405, 1156, pp. 445-444; CE 2125, pp. 475, 477; CE 2470; 10 H 274, 277 (Jesse J. Garner).
722. CE 2131; 2020.
723. CE 2038, 2029, 2040, 3109, 2131, 2476.

11 H

724. CE 2131, 2029.
725. CE 2901, 2132, pp. 10-14; CE 2533, 2002.
726. 1 H 27 (Marina Oswald); 11 H 214 (McFarland); 170-180 (Estelle Twiford) 4170 (Horace E. Twiford).

CE 2732.

727. CE 2131, pp. 5-7.
728. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland).
729. CE 2103, pp. 1-2; CE 2123, 2360, pp. 2-3; CE 2534.
730. CE 2138, pp. 12-14; CE 3075, 3080, but see 11 H 374 (Estelle Twiford).
731. CE 3090.
732. CE 2534.

733. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland); CE 2534.
734. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland); see also 1 H 27 (Marina Oswald).
735. 11 H 170-180 (E. Twiford).

736. CE 3045.

737. Ibid.; see 11 H 372 (S. Odio).

739. See note 736, supra.

739. CE 3148.

740. Ibid.

741. Ibid.; 11 H 375 (S. Odio).

742. CE 2390.

743. CE 3147.

744. CE 3146.

745. Ibid.

746. Ibid.

747. 11 H 370 (S. Odio).

See also CE 3138 (Department of Defense)

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675. See footnote 708 infra; cf. CE 2209, 676; 10 H 365 (V. Davis); CE 2941.
 677. 10 H 383 (S. Wood); 381-382 (Slack); CE 2909 (Slack); 10 H 358 (V. Davis).
 678. *Ibid.*; 10 H 365-366 (V. Davis), 373 (M. Price) & CE 2909, 2977.
 679. CE 2807; CE 2808, pp. 116-117.
 680. 10 H 373-374 (M. Price), 382, 395-397 (S. Wood), 381-383 (Slack); CE 2913, 681, CE 139; 3 H 392-396 (Robert A. Frazier).
 682. 10 H 370 (M. Price), 386 (H. Wood), 391-392 (S. Wood); cf. 10 H 380 (Slack).
 683. 10 H 374 (M. Price), 382 (Slack); 392 (S. Wood); see also CE 2910, 2933, 2977.
 684. 10 H 374 (M. Price), 382 (Slack).
 685. 10 H 386 (H. Wood), 392 (S. Wood); CE 2924, 2915.
 686. CE 139; 3 H 392-396 (Frazier), 154 (Howard L. Brennan).
 687. 10 H 374 (M. Price), 382 (Slack); 4 H 257 (Day); CE 139; 10 H 395 (S. Wood).
 688. 10 H 374 (M. Price); 3 H 394 (Frazier); CE 541, pp. 3, 4.
 689. 10 H 372-373 (M. Price).
 690. See pp. 315-316, supra, *yh. IV*, pp. 113-122.
 691. 10 H 395 (S. Wood), 382 (Slack).
 692. 10 H 370-371 (M. Price), 391 (S. Wood), 365 (V. Davis); but cf. CE 2910, 693, CE 2921, 2918, 2905, 2929, 3049, 694, CE 2 H 296-299, 241 (Bessie W. Frazier); 10 H 297 (Mrs. A. C. Johnson); 6 H 426 (Mary Biedose); CE 2932.
 695. See 10 H 352-353 (Albert Guy Bogard).
 696. In addition to corroborating evidence discussed in text, it is to be noted that on Feb. 22, 1964, Mr. Bogard was interviewed by the FBI in regard to his allegation with the use of a polygraph. No significant emotional responses were recorded by the polygraph when Bogard was asked relevant questions concerning his report. The responses recorded were those normally expected of a person telling the truth. CE 3031. However, consistent with the policy adopted by the Commission in regard to the use of polygraph test results, see pp. —, supra; app. —, pp. —, infra, the Commission has placed no reliance upon these results. However, the results recorded have caused the Commission to investigate Mr. Bogard's claim with special care.
 697. 10 H 342-345 (Frank Pizzo); CE 3078, p. 7.
 698. CE 2091, 3092.
 699. CE 3071, p. 365.
 700. 10 H 344 (Pizzo); CE 3078, p. 7.
 701. *Ibid.*
 702. See 10 H 354 (Royd); CE 3071, 2969.
 703. 10 H 346, 350 (Pizzo); CE 3071 p. 2.
 704. CE 3091.
 705. 10 H 347-351 (Pizzo); CE 2070.
 706. CE 3078, p. 7.
 707. 1 H 112-113, 5 H 402, 11 H 280 (Marina Oswald); 8 H 142-143 (L. Murrot); *id.* at 185 (C. Murrot); 2 H 292-293 (R. Oswald); 8 H 399 (E. *Ibid.*); 9 H 87 (G. Taylor); 9 H 126-127 (Cunningham); 11 H 56-57 (J. Pic).
 708. 2 H 392-397, 11 H 153-154 (R. Palma).
 709. 2 H 515, 517, 41, 11 H 153-154 (R. Palma); 1 H 382-82 (Marina Oswald).
 710. 11 H 308-309, 373, 375, 377, 379 (Sylvia Odio).
 711. 11 H 370-372, 386 (S. Odio).
 712. *Id.* at 370, 382.

713. *Id.* at 370-371.
 714. *Id.* at 372.
 715. *Ibid.*
 716. *Id.* at 372-373.
 717. *Id.* at 373, 375.
 718. *Id.* at 382, 383.
 719. CE 2907.
 720. 11 H 370, 374 (S. Odio); CE 2942.
 721. 1 H 38, 39 (Marina Oswald); CE 2124, p. 383; CE 483, 1156, pp. 443-444; CE 2125, pp. 475, 477; CE 2479; 10 H 270-277 (Jesse J. Garner).
 722. CE 2933, 2939.
 723. CE 2938, 2939, 2940, 3109, 2131, 2476.
 724. CE 2131, 2939.
 725. CE 2961, 2132, pp. 10-14; CE 2539, 2969.
 726. 1 H 27 (Marina Oswald); 11 H 214 (McFarland); 179-180 (Estelle Twiford); 179 (Dorace E. Twiford).
 727. CE 2191, pp. 5-7.
 728. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland).
 729. CE 2195, pp. 1-2; CE 2129, 2566, pp. 2-3; CE 2534.
 730. CE 2138, pp. 12-14; CE 3075, 3086. But see 11 H 179 (Estelle Twiford).
 731. CE 2990.
 732. CE 2534.
 733. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland); CE 2534.
 734. 11 H 214-215 (McFarland); see also 1 H 27 (Marina Oswald).
 735. 11 H 179-180 (S. Twiford).
 736. 11 H 379-380 (S. Odio).
 737. CE 2921, 3102.
 738. CE 2943, p. 6.
 739. CE 2896.
 740. 11 H 375-376 (S. Odio).
 741. CE 2943, pp. 5-6.
 742. Compare 11 H 370 (S. Odio) with CE 2907.
 743. 11 H 371, 382 (S. Odio).
 744. CE 2907.
 745. 11 H 371, 382 (S. Odio).
 746. CE 29-43, p. 4; see also *id.* at 5, 8; CE 2102, 3101; 11 H 380-381 (S. Odio).
 747. CE 2943, p. 8; CE 1414, 3119.
 748. 11 H 341-346 (Rodriguez).
 749. Compare 11 H 341-342 (Rodriguez) with 11 H 370, 382-383 (S. Odio).
 750. 11 H 343 (Rodriguez).
 751. 11 H 350-351 (Orrest Pena).
 752. CE 2897.
 753. *Id.* at 15; compare 11 H 355-356 (O. Pena).
 754. 11 H 342 (Rodriguez); 351 (O. Pena); CE 2477, p. 10.
 755. 1 H 35, 85, 100 (Marina Oswald); 2 H 487 (R. Palma); 8 H 389 (A. Melber); 9 H 244 (G. De Mohrenschildt); 11 H 150 (J. Gibson).
 756. 11 H 325-329 (Dean Andrews).
 757. *Id.* at 331; CE 3094; CE 2896.
 758. CE 2990, 2991, 3104.
 759. 1 H 142, 191-193, 195-196, 209 (Marquerte Oswald); but see e.g., 1 H 20, 83 (Marina Oswald); 3 H 198 (R. Palma).
 760. CE 1138, p. 3; 1 H 206 (Marquerte Oswald).
 761. CE 821; 4 H 408-409 (John W. Palm).
 762. 1 H 214 (Marquerte Oswald); see generally footnote 865.
 763. CE 2880 p. 4; 2531.
 764. 8 H 341 (Pauline Bates).
 765. *Ibid.*
 766. 5 H 120-121 (John A. McConne); *id.* at 121-122 (Richard M. Helms).
 767. CE 876.
 768. 5 H 105-106 (J. Edgar Hoover); 3 H 14-15, 26-27 (Alan H. Belmont); 4 H 423 (Palm); 4 H 440 (James P. Hosty).
 769. CE 825.

Houston

tember 24 and 1 p.m. on September 25, Oswald cashed an unemployment compensation check at a store in New Orleans;⁷²² under normal procedures this check would not have reached Oswald's postal box in New Orleans until at least 5 a.m. on September 25.⁷²³ The store at which he cashed the check did not open until 8 a.m.⁷²⁴ Therefore, it appeared that Oswald's presence in New Orleans until sometime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on September 25 was quite firmly established.

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Although there is no firm evidence of the means by which Oswald traveled from New Orleans to Houston, on the first leg of his Mexico City trip, the Commission noted that a Continental Trailways bus leaving New Orleans at 12:30 on September 25 would have brought Oswald to Houston at 10:50 p.m. that evening.⁷²⁵ His presence on this bus is consistent with other evidence before the Commission.⁷²⁶ There is evidence, however, that on September 26, 1963, Oswald traveled on Continental Trailways bus No. 5133 which left Houston at 2:35 a.m. for Laredo, Tex. Bus company records disclose that one ticket from Houston to Laredo was sold during the night shift on September 25-26, and that such ticket was the only one of its kind sold in the period of September 24 through September 26. The agent who sold this ticket has stated that Oswald could have been the purchaser.⁷²⁷ Two English passengers, Dr. and Mrs. John B. McFarland, testified that they saw Oswald riding alone on this bus shortly after they awoke at 6 a.m.⁷²⁸ The bus was scheduled to arrive in Laredo at 1:20 p.m. on September 26, and Mexican immigration records show that Oswald in fact crossed the border at Laredo to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. on that day.⁷²⁹ Evidence set out in appendix XIII establishes that Oswald did not leave Mexico until October 3, and that he arrived in Dallas the same day.

The Commission noted that the only time not strictly accounted for during the period that Mrs. Odio thought Oswald might have visited her is the span between the morning of September 25 and 2:35 a.m. on September 26. The only public means of transportation by which Oswald could have traveled from New Orleans to Dallas in time to catch his bus from Houston to Laredo, would have been the airlines. Investigation disclosed no indication that he flew between these points.⁷³⁰ Moreover, it did not seem probable that Oswald would speed from New Orleans, spend a short time talking to Sylvia Odio, and then travel from Dallas to Mexico City and back on the bus. Automobile travel in the time available, though perhaps possible, would have been difficult.⁷³¹ The Commission noted, however, that if Oswald had reached Dallas on the evening of September 25, he could have traveled by bus to Alice, Tex., and there caught the bus which had left Houston for Laredo at 2:35 a.m. on September 26, 1963.⁷³² Further investigation in that regard indicated, however, that no tickets were sold, during the period September 23-26, 1963 for travel from Dallas to Laredo or points beyond by the Dallas office of Continental Trailways, the only bus line on which Oswald could have made con-

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nections with the bus on which he was later seen. Furthermore, if Oswald had traveled from Dallas to Alice, he would not have reached the Houston to Laredo bus until after he was first reportedly observed on it by the McFarlands.⁷²³ Oswald had also told passengers on the bus to Laredo that he had traveled from New Orleans by bus, and made no mention of an intervening trip to Dallas.⁷²⁴ In addition, the Commission noted evidence that on the evening of September 25, 1963, Oswald made a telephone call to a party in Houston proposing to visit a resident of Houston that evening⁷²⁵ and the fact that such a call would appear to be inconsistent with Oswald's having been in Dallas at the time. It thus appeared that the evidence was persuasive that Oswald was not in Dallas on September 25, and, therefore, that he was not in that city at the time Mrs. Odio said she saw him.

In spite of the fact that it appeared almost certain that Oswald could not have been in Dallas at the time Mrs. Odio thought he was, the Commission requested the FBI to conduct ~~whatever~~ investigation *was necessary* to determine the validity of Mrs. Odio's testimony.⁷²⁶ The Commission considered the problems raised by that testimony as important in view of the possibility it raised that Oswald may have had companions on his trip to Mexico.⁷²⁷ The Commission specifically requested the FBI to attempt to locate and identify the two men who Mrs. Odio stated were with the man she thought was Oswald.⁷²⁸ In an effort to do that the FBI located and interviewed Manuel Ray, a leader of JURE who confirmed that Mrs. Odio's parents were political prisoners in Cuba, but stated that he did not know anything about the alleged Oswald visit.⁷²⁹ The same was true of Rogelio Cisneros,⁷³⁰ a former anti-Castro leader from Miami who had visited Mrs. Odio in June of 1962 in connection with certain anti-Castro activities.⁷³¹ Additional investigation was conducted in Dallas and in other cities in search of the visitors to Mrs. Odio's apartment.⁷³² Mrs. Odio herself was reinterviewed.⁷³³

further

On September 16, 1964, the FBI located Loran Eugene Hall in Johnsandale, Calif.⁷³⁴ Hall has been identified as a participant in numerous anti-Castro activities.⁷³⁵ He told the FBI that in September of 1963 he was in Dallas, soliciting aid in connection with anti-Castro activities. He said he had visited Mrs. Odio. He was accompanied by Lawrence Howard, a Mexican-American from East Los Angeles and one William Seymour from Arizona. He stated that Seymour is similar in appearance to Lee Harvey Oswald: he speaks only a few words of Spanish,⁷³⁶ as Mrs. Odio had testified one of the men who visited her did.⁷³⁷ While the FBI had not yet completed its investigation into this matter at the time the report went to press, the Commission has concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald was not at Mrs. Odio's apartment in September of 1963.

The Commission has also noted the testimony of Evaristo Rodriguez, a bartender in the Habana Bar in New Orleans, to the effect that he saw Oswald in that bar in August of 1963 in the company of a Latin-appearing man.⁷³⁸ Rodriguez' description of the man accompanying the person he thought to be Oswald was similar in respects to

Walter

the description given by Sylvia Odio since both testified that the man may have been of either Cuban or Mexican extraction, and had a slight bald spot on the forepart of his hairline.⁷⁵⁰ Rodriguez' identification of Oswald was uncorroborated except for the testimony of the owner of the bar, Orest Pena; according to Rodriguez, Pena was not in a position to observe the man he thought later to have been Oswald.⁷⁵⁰ Although Pena has testified that he did observe the same person as did Rodriguez, and that this person was Oswald,⁷⁵¹ an FBI interview report indicates that a month earlier Pena had stated that he "could not at this time or at any time say whether or not the person was identical with Lee Harvey Oswald."⁷⁵² Though when testifying, Pena identified photographs of Oswald, the FBI report also records that Pena "stated the only reason he was able to recognize Oswald was because he had seen Oswald's picture in the news media so often after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy."⁷⁵³ When present at Pena's bar, Oswald was supposed to have been intoxicated to the extent that he became ill,⁷⁵⁴ which is inconsistent with other evidence that Oswald did not drink alcoholic beverages to excess.⁷⁵⁵

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The Commission has also noted the testimony of Dean Andrews, an attorney in New Orleans. Andrews stated that Oswald came to his office several times in the summer of 1963 to seek advice on a less than honorable discharge from the Armed Forces, the citizenship status of his wife and his own citizenship status. Andrews, who believes that he was contacted on November 23 to represent Oswald, testified that Oswald was always accompanied by a Mexican and was at times accompanied by apparent homosexuals.⁷⁵⁶ Andrews was able to locate no records of any of Oswald's alleged visits, and investigation has failed to locate the person who supposedly called Andrews on November 23, at a time when Andrews was under heavy sedation.⁷⁵⁷ While one of Andrews' employees felt that Oswald might have been at his office, his secretary has no recollection of Oswald being there.⁷⁵⁸

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Oswald Was Not an Agent for the U.S. Government

From the time of his release from the Marine Corps until the assassination, Lee Harvey Oswald dealt in various transactions with several agencies of the U.S. Government. Before departing the United States for the Soviet Union in 1959, he obtained an American passport, which he returned to the Embassy in Moscow in October 1959 when he attempted to renounce his U.S. citizenship. Thereafter, while in the Soviet Union, Oswald had numerous contacts with the American Embassy, both in person and through correspondence. Two years later, he applied for the return and renewal of his passport, which was granted him. His application concerning the admittance of his wife to this country was passed upon by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice in addition to the State Department. And before returning to this country, he secured a loan from the State Department to help cover his transporta-

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Ch. VI

believed that Oswald may have practiced have been examined by the FBI Laboratory, and none has been found which was fired from Oswald's rifle.⁶⁹³ Finally, evidence discussed in chapter IV tends to prove that Oswald brought his rifle to Dallas from the home of the Paines in Irving on November 22, and there is no other evidence which indicates that he took the rifle or a package which might have contained the rifle out of the Paine's garage, where it was stored, prior to that date.⁶⁹⁴

Automobile demonstration.—The testimony of Albert Guy Bogard has been carefully evaluated because it suggests the possibility that Oswald might have been a proficient automobile driver and, during November 1963, might have been expecting funds with which to purchase a car. Bogard, formerly an automobile salesman with a Lincoln-Mercury firm in Dallas, testified that in the early afternoon of November 9, 1963, he attended a prospective customer who he believes was Lee Harvey Oswald. According to Bogard, the customer, after test driving an automobile over the Stemmons Freeway at 60 to 70 miles per hour, told Bogard that in several weeks he would have the money to make a purchase. Bogard asserted that the customer gave his name as "Lee Oswald," which Bogard wrote on a business card. After Oswald's name was mentioned on the radio on November 22, Bogard assertedly threw the card in a trash can, making the comment to coemployees that he supposed Oswald would no longer wish to buy a car.⁶⁹⁵

Bogard's testimony has received some corroboration. The assistant sales manager at the time, Frank Pizzo, recalled the incident when the customer described by Bogard was in the showroom.⁶⁹⁶ A second salesman, Oran Brown, recalled that Bogard asked him to assist the customer if he appeared during certain evenings when Bogard was away from the showroom.⁶⁹⁷ Both Brown and his wife remember that Brown too wrote down the customer's name as "Lee Oswald."⁶⁹⁸

However, doubts exist about the accuracy of Bogard's testimony. On November 23 a search through the showroom's refuse was made for Bogard's card, but nothing bearing Oswald's name was found, though it is possible that the card had been burned by the time of the search.⁶⁹⁹ In a signed statement prepared on December 12, 1963, Bogard stated that he tore up the card "after President Kennedy had been killed" and after having heard that Oswald had been picked up as a suspect.⁷⁰⁰ Bogard later testified, "I hadn't heard that the President had been killed, just heard a policeman had been shot and that's when I tore up the card and said, 'He won't want to buy a car.'"⁷⁰¹ It is difficult to reconcile this statement with the sequence of events on November 22. President Kennedy was shot at 12:30 p.m., and his death was announced publicly at approximately 1:30 p.m. Officer Tippit was shot at about 1:16 p.m., but Lee Harvey Oswald was not brought to the police station until approximately 2 p.m. and there could not have been any mention of his name as a suspect in the Tippit killing until that time, which was well after the death of President Kennedy was known.⁷⁰² Although these inconsistencies may be ex-

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Feb. 21, 1962

plausible by the time lapse before Mr. Bogard testified, it is significant that although Bogard states he discarded the business card with Oswald's name on it in the presence of other employees, none recalled seeing Bogard doing so.⁷⁰³ The paper on which Mr. Brown reportedly wrote Oswald's name was also assertedly discarded and has not been located.⁷⁰⁴ A third salesman who overheard Bogard comment on his lost prospect after the assassination remembered that Bogard stated that he had "[written] up papers covering the sale of this car to Oswald";⁷⁰⁵ however, Bogard has claimed that he did not prepare a prospect sheet for this customer, because the customer refused to give any information other than his name.⁷⁰⁶

Witness has heard that the Bogard customer was but 5 feet tall

Testimony of other witnesses casts further doubt on Bogard's allegation.⁷⁰⁷ The assistant sales manager, Mr. Pizzo, who saw Bogard's prospect on November 9 and shortly after the assassination felt that Oswald may have been this man, later examined pictures of Oswald and expressed serious doubts that the person with Bogard was in fact Oswald. While noting a resemblance, he did not believe that Oswald's hairline matched that of the person who had been in the showroom on November 9.⁷⁰⁸

Secret TP

Several persons who knew Oswald have testified that he was unable to drive, although Mrs. Paine, who was giving Oswald driving lessons, stated that Oswald was showing some improvement by November.⁷⁰⁹ Moreover, Oswald's whereabouts on November 9, as testified to by Marina Oswald and Ruth Paine, would have made it impossible for him to have visited the automobile showroom as Mr. Bogard claims.⁷¹⁰

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Alleged activities with Cuban underground organizations.—The Commission has also considered testimony of witnesses who claim to have seen Oswald in the company of unidentified persons of Cuban or Mexican background who were active in underground activities directed against the Cuban Government of Premier Castro. The most important witness in this regard is Mrs. Sylvia Odio. Mrs. Odio was born in Havana in 1937 and remained in Cuba until 1957; she claims that both of her parents are political prisoners of the Castro regime. Mrs. Odio is a member of the Cuban Revolutionary Junta (JURE), an anti-Castro organization. Prior to October of 1963, her assistance had been sought out by other members in connection with clandestine shipment of guns to revolutionary forces in Cuba and other endeavors of the organization.⁷¹¹

Mrs. Odio testified that late in September 1963, three men came to her apartment in Dallas and asked her to help them prepare a letter soliciting funds for JURE activities. Mrs. Odio claimed that the men, who exhibited personal familiarity with her imprisoned father, asked her if she were "working in the underground," and she replied that she was not.⁷¹² She testified that two of the men appeared to be Cubans, although they also had some characteristics that she associated with Mexicans. Those two men did not state their full names, but identified themselves only by their fictitious underground "war names." Mrs. Odio remembered the name of one of the Cubans as "Leopoldo."⁷¹³ The third man, an American, allegedly was intro-

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Bogard's testimony has received corroboration. The assistant sales manager at the time, Frank Pizzo, and a second salesman, Eugene M. Wilson, state that they recall an instance when the customer described by Bogard was in the showroom. Another salesman, Oran Brown, recalls that Bogard asked him to assist the customer if he appeared during certain evenings when Bogard was away from the showroom. Brown states that he too wrote down the customer's name and both he and his wife remember the name "Oswald" as being on a paper in his possession before the assassination.

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However, doubts exist about the accuracy of Bogard's testimony. He, Pizzo, and Wilson ^I differ on ~~an~~ important details of what is supposed to have occurred when the customer was in the showroom. Whereas Bogard states that the customer ^{said} ~~stated~~ he did not wish credit and wanted to purchase a car for cash, ~~which~~ Pizzo and Wilson both indicate that the man did ^(attempt to purchase a) ~~not~~ credit. According to Wilson, when the customer was told that he would be unable to purchase a car without a credit rating, substantial cash, or a lengthy employment record, he stated sarcastically, "Maybe I'm going to have to go back to Russia to buy a car." While ^{it is possible that Oswald would have made} ~~the statement may sound like a remark~~ ^{(such a remark) the statement} ~~which Oswald might have made, it~~ is not consistent with Bogard's story. Indeed, Bogard has made no mention that the customer ever spoke with Wilson while he was in the showroom ^{with Bogard}. More important, on November 23, a search through the showroom's refuse was made, ~~for Bogard's~~ but no paper bearing Oswald's name was found. The paper on which Brown reportedly wrote Oswald's name also has never been located.

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II Alleged association with various Mexican or Cuban

individually An example of the way in which the Commission has examined Oswald's known or alleged contacts and activities in an effort to ascertain whether or not he was involved in any conspiracy may be seen in the investigation it conducted or a result of the testimony given by Mrs. Sylvia Odio, at Dallas, Tex. The Commission investigated her statements in connection with its consideration of the testimony of several witnesses suggesting that Oswald may have been seen in the company of unidentified persons of Cuban or Mexican background. Mrs. Odio was born in Havana in 1937 and remained in Cuba until 1960; it appears that both of her parents are political prisoners of the Castro regime. Mrs. Odio is a member of the Cuban Revolutionary Junta (JURE), an anti-Castro organization. 710/ She

plausible by the time lapse before Mr. Bogard testified, it is significant that although Bogard states he discarded the business card with Oswald's name on it in the presence of other employees, none recalled seeing Bogard doing so.⁷⁰³ The paper on which Mr. Brown reportedly wrote Oswald's name was also assertedly discarded, and has not been located.⁷⁰⁴ A third salesman who overheard Bogard comment on his lost prospect after the assassination remembered that Bogard stated that he had "[written] up papers covering the sale of this car to Oswald";⁷⁰⁵ however, Bogard has claimed that he did not prepare a prospect sheet for this customer, because the customer refused to give any information other than his name.⁷⁰⁶

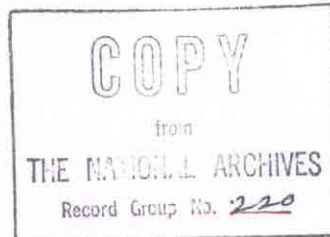
Testimony of other witnesses casts further doubt on Bogard's allegation. The assistant sales manager, Mr. Pizzo, who saw Bogard's prospect on November 9 and shortly after the assassination felt that Oswald may have been this man, later examined pictures of Oswald and expressed serious doubts that the person with Bogard was in fact Oswald. While noting a resemblance, he did not believe that Oswald's hairline matched that of the person who had been in the showroom on November 9.⁷⁰⁷

Several persons who knew Oswald have testified that he was unable to drive, although Mrs. Paine, who was giving Oswald driving lessons, stated that Oswald was showing some improvement by November.⁷⁰⁸ Moreover, Oswald's whereabouts on November 9, as testified to by Marina Oswald and Ruth Paine, would have made it impossible for him to have visited the automobile showroom as Mr. Bogard claims.⁷⁰⁹

~~Alleged activities with Cuban underground organizations.—The Commission has also considered testimony of witnesses who claim to have seen Oswald in the company of unidentified persons of Cuban or Mexican background who were active in underground activities directed against the Cuban Government of Premier Castro. The most important witness in this regard is Mrs. Sylvia Odio. Mrs. Odio was born in Havana in 1937 and remained in Cuba until 1957; she claims that both of her parents are political prisoners of the Castro regime. Mrs. Odio is a member of the Cuban Revolutionary Junta (JURE), an anti-Castro organization. Prior to October of 1963, her assistance had been sought out by other members in connection with clandestine shipment of guns to revolutionary forces in Cuba and other endeavors of the organization.⁷¹⁰~~

~~She~~ testified that late in September 1963, three men came to her apartment in Dallas and asked her to help them prepare a letter soliciting funds for JURE activities. ~~She~~ claimed that the men, who exhibited personal familiarity with her imprisoned father, asked her if she were "working in the underground," and she replied that she was not.⁷¹¹ She testified that two of the men appeared to be Cubans, although they also had some characteristics that she associated with Mexicans. Those two men did not state their full names, but identified themselves only by their fictitious underground "war names." Mrs. Odio remembered the name of one of the Cubans as "Leopoldo."⁷¹² The third man, an American, allegedly was intro-

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The Commission has also noted the testimony of Dean Andrews, an attorney in New Orleans. Andrews stated that Oswald came to his office several times in the summer of 1963 to seek advice on a less than honorable discharge from the Armed Forces, the citizenship status of his wife and his own citizenship status. Andrews who believes that he was contacted on November 23, to represent Oswald, testified that Oswald was always accompanied by a Mexican and was at times accompanied by apparent homosexuals.⁷⁵⁶ Andrews was able to locate no records of any of Oswald's alleged visits, and investigation has failed to locate the person who supposedly called Andrews on November 23, at a time when Andrews was under heavy sedation.⁷⁵⁷ While one of Andrews' employees felt that Oswald might have been at his office, his secretary has no recollection of Oswald being there.⁷⁵⁸

Oswald Was Not an Agent for the U.S. Government

From the time of his release from the Marine Corps until the assassination, Lee Harvey Oswald dealt in various transactions with several agencies of the U.S. Government. Before departing the United States for the Soviet Union in 1959, he obtained an American passport, which he returned to the Embassy in Moscow in October 1959 when he attempted to renounce his U.S. citizenship. Thereafter, while in the Soviet Union, Oswald had numerous contacts with the American Embassy, both in person and through correspondence. Two years later, he applied for the return and renewal of his passport, which was granted him. His application concerning the admittance of his wife to this country was passed upon by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice in addition to the State Department. And before returning to this country, he secured a loan from the State Department to help cover his transportation costs from Moscow to New York. These dealings with the Department of State and the Immigration and Naturalization Service have been reviewed earlier in this chapter and are considered in detail in appendix XV. After his return, Oswald was interviewed on three occasions by agents of the FBI, and Mrs. Paine was also questioned by the FBI about Oswald's activities. Oswald obtained a second passport in June of 1963. And both the FBI and the CIA took note of his Fair Play for Cuba Committee activities in New Orleans and his appearance at the Soviet consulate in Mexico City. For reasons which will be discussed fully in chapter VIII, Oswald's name was never given to the U.S. Secret Service.

These dealings have given rise to numerous rumors and allegations that Oswald may have been a paid informant or some type of undercover agent for a Federal agency, usually the FBI or the CIA. The Commission has fully explored whether Oswald had any official or unofficial relationship with any Federal agency beyond that already described.

Oswald's mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, testified before the Commission that she believes her son went to Russia and returned as an

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