

CD 75

Date 11/27/631

LOREN L. BUTLER, II, 4900 Lurline Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised on November 27, 1963, that he observed LEE HARVEY OSWALD passing out handbills on August 8, 1963, at the corner of Canal and Bourbon Streets, New Orleans, Louisiana. BUTLER advised that these handbills expressed pro-Castro statements and demanded a "hands off Cuba Policy".

BUTLER stated that he was not acquainted with OSWALD but attempted to strike up a conversation with him by saying, "How's business?" OSWALD's response was unintelligible and he appeared irritated. BUTLER stated that he did not pursue his effort to strike up a conversation and left thinking that OSWALD was a "nut". On the following day, August 9, 1963, BUTLER read in the newspaper that the same person had been arrested by the New Orleans Police Department.

BUTLER advised that he has no other information concerning OSWALD, his associates, or his activities.

On 11/27/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69  
 by SA MERRIMAN D. DIVEN/lrs Date dictated 11/27/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

697

Oswald Literature Distribution  
Loren L. Butler

10/22/00  
Harold Weisberg

Here again we have an FBI agent not one of those active in the investigation slipping up and reporting what was not of interest to the FBI and the Commission, what the Report ignored, and what does not now stand alone; distributions on dates others than those officially gone into and in a location designed to bait Carlos Bringuier.

Assuming Butler to be correct - and the report is neither indefinite nor evasive - here Oswald was passing out his material the day before he was arrested and very close to Bringuier's store, where Cubens had the best chance to spot him, where others also reported seeing him (for example, Brian Ampolsk). This is also consistent with what Mrs. Elise Cerniglia, head of Cuban Catholic Relief told me, that for three days prior to the arrest Cubens regularly complained to her of such anti-Castro propagandizing in that area.

This, in turn, is consistent with an effort by Oswald to attract exactly the kind of attention he did achieve, with Bringuier's help.

What is inconsistent with such pamphleteering is Butler's statement that Oswald would not strike up a conversation. This could be attributed to Butler's manner. It is not consistent with the lengthy conversation Oswald had that day of the one before with Brian Ampolsk. With Ampolsk, Oswald seemed quite willing to engage in even detailed personal conversation.

Again, this report, like so many, lacks the obvious. For example, identification of the pictures of Oswald picketing, whether or not he was accompanied, etc.