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He failed to pay Mrs. Garner the September rent of \$65. He intended to save the money for his trip to Mexico. Marina started to worry that once she returned with Ruth Paine to Texas, she might not see him again. She begged to be taken along to Mexico, but he said it was impossible because of her pregnancy. He promised to summon her once he was settled in Cuba.

On September 7, Castro appeared at a Brazilian embassy reception in Havana and submitted to a rare informal interview with Associated Press correspondent Daniel Harker. Castro was unusually outspoken, saying, "Kennedy is a cretin . . . the Batista of his times . . . the most opportunistic American President of all time."⁷⁸ Castro denounced recent U.S. attacks on Cuba and then threatened, "We are prepared to fight them and answer in kind. U.S. leaders should think that if they are aiding terrorist plans to eliminate Cuban leaders, they themselves will not be safe."⁷⁹ Castro, aware of the CIA attempts to assassinate him, had used a reporter to warn Kennedy that two could play such a dangerous game. Oswald, an avid newspaper reader, almost certainly saw the article.⁸⁰ Propaganda conjecture.

Oswald visited the Mexican consulate in New Orleans on Tuesday, September 17. He filled out an application for a tourist card, listing himself as a photographer with an office at 640 Rampart Street.⁸⁰ For a fee of 50¢, he was issued a tourist card, No. 24085, which allowed him to stay fifteen days in Mexico.⁸¹

if it was legal to import. Gillin suggested his visitor check with the city's police chemist. After the man left the office, Gillin never again had contact with him, but over the assassination weekend of November 22, 1963, Gillin identified his visitor as Lee Oswald. Since the CIA was experimenting with LSD during the early 1960s, the incident might be evidence of an intelligence link to Oswald. The problem is with Gillin's identification, which has been offered as evidence of another eyewitness account of Oswald's suspicious behavior. "I was then, and still am now, legally blind," Gillin told the author. "I could never have been sure of the identification of Oswald under oath." Gillin had only identified Oswald from the sound of his voice over the television.

*The interview was prominently covered in the New Orleans Times-Picayune on September 9, under a three-column headline on page 7.

**The man who was issued tourist card No. 24084, the one directly before Oswald's, was William Gaudet, a newspaper editor. Until 1961, he was a

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On Friday, September 20, Marina came home from a grocery trip to the Winn-Dixie to find that Ruth Paine and her children had arrived at the apartment. Ruth recalled that she had never seen Lee in such a good mood.⁸² She spent the weekend, and he lied to her that he intended to look for work in Houston or Philadelphia, and then once he found a job, he would be back to fetch Marina. On Saturday and Sunday, Ruth "was impressed . . . with his willingness to help with the packing [of most of their meager goods]. He did virtually all the packing and all the loading of the things into the car."⁸³ At the time, she thought his actions were "gentlemanly," but she is now convinced that he probably packed his rifle in one of the bags and did not want anyone else handling it.⁸⁴

Monday, September 23, was the day Marina left for Texas with Ruth. It was a difficult farewell for both Marina and Lee. Ruth remembered, "He kissed her a very fond goodbye, both at home and then again at the gas station [a couple of blocks away, where they changed a flat tire], and I felt he cared and he would certainly see her [again]."⁸⁵ Marina remembered his lips trembled when he kissed her, and he fought back tears. He looked at her "as a dog looks at its master."⁸⁶ As she drove away with Ruth, Marina looked at him standing alone and wondered if she would ever see him again.

Pomeroy knows and I think lies about Gaudet identified himself as connected with the CIA to the FBI in its investigation of Oswald in the Mexican tourist card line. Gaudet had a suite of three rooms in the Trade Mart when Oswald packed. He had offices in the same buildings as the Free Cuba Committee and the Kuylen agency, both CIA. E. Howard Hunt worked for Muller when he was CIA. He met about which Helms's memo refers to the Senate Watergate Committee source of information for the CIA's Domestic Contact Division. He did not know Oswald, did not travel to Mexico with him, and had no other association with the case except for the coincidence that they both applied for Mexican tourist cards. The House Select Committee reviewed Gaudet's CIA file and determined he had no clandestine relationship with the Agency (HSCA Rpt. p. 219). This says much about HSCA. If it is not true in E. Howard Pomeroy's tricky formulation, what has it not he knew the truth, as he could and should have.