

Mr. Mark G. Eckhoff
Director, Legislative, Judicial, and
Diplomatic Records Division
National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20540

2537 Regent St., Apt. 202
Berkeley, Calif. 94704
January 5, 1970
Attention: NND

Dear Mr. Eckhoff:

The Archives has previously advised me that there is no material in the name files of the Warren Commission for Carlos Quiroga, except possibly CE 1414 and CE 3119, both of which are Secret Service reports. (See my letter of March 4, 1968, and the reply dated March 21.) Quiroga is the anti-Castro Cuban who visited Oswald's home in New Orleans, indicating interest in the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC), and it has seemed most unlikely to me that he would not have been interviewed by the FBI. I now believe that CD 75, pages 705-706, which are withheld, do reflect an FBI interview of Quiroga. This conclusion is based on a comparison of index references for these pages with material from other sources. (See attached page.)

Quiroga did ask the Secret Service not to reveal his name, and when his friend Carlos Bringuier testified about Quiroga's contact with Oswald, his name was not put in the record (10H39-42). Quiroga's meeting with Oswald was widely publicized in connection with the recent "Investigation" in New Orleans, with his name used also, in his just-published book, "Red Friday," Carlos Bringuier no longer conceals Quiroga's identity. Thus it would appear that the probable reason for withholding an interview of Quiroga at the Archives, to protect the confidentiality he requested, is no longer applicable.

I am, therefore, asking that you make these two pages available under section 2c of the Attorney General's letter of April 13, 1965, which provides that "all unclassified material which has been disclosed ... in substance in the ... published documents [of the Commission] should be made available to the public on a regular basis." The determination of what has been so disclosed is apparently to be made by the Archives, not by the agency of origin. Should this request be denied, I wish to ask that the FBI reconsider its position that these pages should be withheld, and that you transmit this request to the FBI on my behalf.

I hope that you can tell me at this time whether the pages in question are in fact a report of an interview with Quiroga, with his name given, an interview with an unnamed individual, an interview with some other named person (e.g., Carlos Bringuier), or not an interview report at all.

Also, please tell me under which of the Guidelines 3a, 3b, and 3c (which together apply to all the withheld pages of CD 75) these specific pages are withheld. If CD 75 has a table of contents and/or a synopsis, please send me a copy. In case I have not done so explicitly before, I wish to request a list of the pages which become available as a result of the review scheduled for this year.

Sincerely yours,

Paul L. Hoch

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NOTES ON CD 75, PAGES 705-706

On the basis of this hypothetical reconstruction, I suspect that these pages reflect an interview with Carlos Quiroga.

Source material: (underlining added)
From "Red Friday," by Carlos Bringuier, pages 32, 35. Essentially the same material appears in Bringuier's testimony, 10H39-42.

On August 16th, Lee Harvey Oswald carried on another demonstration, this time in front of the Old (sic) International Trade Mart ... One of the leaflets he was handing out was brought to the Thompson Cafeteria where several Cubans were eating their lunches and one of them, Carlos Quiroga, brought it to the store for me to see ...

(Referring to Oswald's conversation with Quiroga)
... Oswald said that he was studying languages at Tulane University, which later proved to be a lie. Oswald accused us, the anti-Castro Cubans, of being criminals and also showed special animosity against the Somoza regime in Nicaragua. He defended Castro's oppression of the Cuban people. ... Oswald gave Quiroga ... an application to become a member of Fair Play for Cuba Committee ..."

From CE 3119, p. 20 (Secret Service interview):

Carlos [Quiroga] said he had been willing to join the Fair Play for Cuba group provided it was done with the backing of the FBI or the local police force. He said he had made this known to Lt. Martello, NCPD, who apparently forgot about it."

He stated he was furnishing the following information in confidence for the reason his father is in prison in Cuba ..."

The only other index references to these two pages are "Hidal, (FNU)", "Ruby, Jack Leon," and "Rhubenstein, Jack." Of course, the FBI frequently asked witnesses who had known Oswald if they knew Ruby or anyone by the name of Hidalgo (which may also have been on the literature Quiroga saw).

Paul L. Hoch
January 5, 1969

Confidential attachment - not sent to Archives

From CE 3119, p. 21: "He said he did not contact the FBI for the reason on a previous occasion he had notified their office that Oswald was handing out what he assumed to be pro-communist literature in front of the ... [IM] ... and the FBI had given him the cold shoulder." There's more here than meets the eye. Perhaps at the time the FBI already had a man at the scene. If, however, Quiroga turns up on these pages as "a source who has provided reliable information in the past," we've got something to think about. Very interesting. The passage about Quiroga's father quoted above continues as follows: "and if the wrong persons should learn that he is cooperating with the Government, he feels that the Castro government might harm his mother and father." You would have to be fairly paranoid to think Castro would get upset by someone cooperating with the Secret Service in such a case. If he was referring to his work with Bringuier and the other anti-Castro Cubans, his fear may be justified, but was his work a secret? If, however, he was referring to being an FBI informant ...

References from
Index to CD 75:

International Trade Mart (705)
Thompson's Restaurant (705)

Bringuier, Carlos (705)

Tulane University (705)

Somoza, Government of (705)

Castro, Fidel (705)
Fair Play for Cuba
Committee (705, 706)

Martello, Lt. Francis (706)

(If he said this to the
FBI, that would explain
the absence of an index
listing for Quiroga.)