

10/13/71

Dear Paul,

Thanks for the effort on Roddenberry, even if unsuccessful.

There are two very fascinating things in your letter: the CIA discrete interest in the assassination in Dallas three weeks ago, which is pretty recent, and how wrong your informant on Odio is and yet how close to right on every point. If and when you can add to either, I'd be very interested.

Down to where you say who Sylvia married your dope is correct. She married a Guillermo Herrera, as I remember it without looking it up. He left her, they patched it up and broke up again and she is now remarried and when last I heard was living in Fla. I don't know anything about her new husband and her uncle lied, telling me he didn't know that or where she is.

The incident you describe is in WHITEMASH, the chapter The False Oswald. It was in Dallas, not H.O. It may have involved several American mercenaries. The Bureau said it did, but the reports are not above questioning. The chief guy told me it is possible that he visited her but that there was no threat vs JFK. I interviewed him.

Now the one part that nobody knows to this point that I believe is that she did tell the priest. He was in Dallas when I saw you. I then interviewed him, Rev. Walter Bachmann (lives with parents). Seemed like very nice guy, but at time assassination gave up priestly duties. He was in H.O. when Tom Kelley interviewed him, working in mental health. But that was 4/64. "Where is there any evidence that she told Bachmann this in advance, and when I felt it was getting close to his oath, I didn't press him on the point.

Sylvia was not then working for Nieman-Marcus but as a secretary. She did pass out and was hospitalized. Here also you get very close to something else I've picked up and a right name but I think in the wrong use. I know nothing about the relapse, have no reason to question it. I picked up private information that friends feared she'd do herself in and two women, one of whom at least left Dallas, sat with her at the hospital to prevent this. I don't think Ramos was one. What you have of her is straight, but far from complete. Ask George Butler about her, and tell me what he says. She had a story about being offered a big wad for what she knew of the assassination. "Rudi Castor brought her together with Butler, whose wife didn't like the idea and got uptight. If Butler ever filed any report, I've not seen. It makes more sense the way your informant tells it than the way it came to be, for I don't know Ramos could have known anything otherwise. You have her husband right, too. This part has always fascinated me. Remember, I asked you where Butler was and you told me at the jail? I never had time to look him up when I was there.

Sylvia b.f. was very wealthy, but not a Cuban. Louis Ferre, brother of Maurice, now governor of Puerto Rico. But according to my information, it was before she went to Fla. He was in cement. When Sylvia was sick he asked Texas Industries Rogers (the son, not the father) to take Sylvia in after surgery, and they did. Mrs. R. left calls for six months the day, phoned her. There is a bit ~~about~~ about a pillow that is provocative, but I don't know the answer.

The recanting on a promise to talk may have been an approach from LIFE, which was much later.

You are right on Ramos' connection with the Catholic Cuban relief in Dallas. You didn't have the name. Her friend there was, as I recall, Marcella Insua.

Paul, it is fascinating that your source is so close to so much, yet because he seems to be off, I wonder if his dope is second-hand? I won't make any guesses. Thanks much. Hope your affairs are going well. If you get any more, I'd be interested.

Sincerely,

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Dear Harold

I hope this will be of  
some help to you - It took  
a lot of doing to come up  
with this information and  
it will be hard to get  
it in a statement form but  
I am satisfied that it is  
accurate -

Best of luck  
Paul

The informant was active in investigation of the Kennedy assassination immediately after the event and until several years ago

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Silva Odio daughter of a rich Cuban who owned a truck line and citrus grove in Cuba came to the U.S.A. early after Castro came to power. Her father had helped Castro but was put in internment on the Isle of Pines anyway and his property was confiscated. Silva was very beautiful and married to a William Odio whom she separated from about the time of the assassination. While in New Orleans Oswald and two others (names) approached Silva saying they come on instructions of her father who was still in Cuba and wanted her to pay some money toward their expenses and billing John Kennedy. Silva refused but was disturbed enough to tell her priest (Catholic) who is still in New Orleans and who confirmed the statement as having been made prior to the assassination. On the day of the assassination Silva Odio was shopping in <sup>the Mall</sup> Neuman Marcus dept store where

she saw a news flash with Oswald's picture whereupon she fainted and was removed to a hospital in Hysteria. She again heard a news cast and had a relapse. On the 3rd day of her hospitalization she was visited at 6A4 by one Maria Ramos. She told Ramos if you can find me anyone can and my life is in danger whereupon she left without checking out and emerged in Miami, <sup>Florida</sup> as the mistress of a Cuban multi-millionaire who had escaped with some loot. This man was in the cement business and he shipped several loads of cement to Castro through Puerto Rico. While in Dallas Silva lived at several places but was at the Rosada Club for a long time which was expensive & paid by someone. In Dallas she was open in conversation after being contacted in Miami to talk and after having agreed she recounted upon the arrival of a newsman - Maria Ramos is now

in Andania (Terre Haute or Andanopolis)  
she and her salesman husband were  
separated while in Dallas. He was a  
former baseball star - They had  
several children - she was active in  
Catholic affairs and especially in  
relocating Cuban refugees in Dallas.

An informant of usual reliability advised  
on Oct 7, 1961 that as of 2  
weeks ago the CIA was making  
a discreet inquiry about the  
Kennedy assassination in Dallas  
but the informant did not know  
who was talked to nor the  
questions asked.

No information was obtained on Roddenberry  
in Dallas -