

Jeff Morley, Outlook
The Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, DC 20071

2/6/97

Dear Jeff,

I've looked through all my Bringuier files that are not in the basement and that document is not there. The basement is not a nono so I can't check that. However, the Archives should be able to provide it. That is where I got it. I had very little money then and probably used that one copy in the manuscript.

I have a copy of a receipt Bringuier gave the Geraci boy before August. Maybe more than one. I think one from the mother and one from Philip, when I interviewed him after his return from VN. The mother placed the date she drove Philip and Vance Blalock into NO by the dental appointment she had that had her drive in. It was right after school recessed for the summer.

My lead was a Secret Service report I thought I used in O in NO but that was so long ago and I've forgotten so much!!!

If it is important to you and if you are here and will keep confidente there is more that makes Bringuier out to be a scum I'll tell you.

The father had a shoe box of Philip's stuff he got out and showed me. There were other receipts for those 50¢ bonds, among other things.

I refer to that document as File 1203a. That refers to the number at the archives before they put the computer system in. You can get it from Martha Wagner Murphy, an archivist in Access and FOIA or from Ramona Branch in JFK Access Files.

I'd forgotten all those Mexican suggestions Bringuier refers to. ~~Re~~ Orest Pena and two of his people, the daytime bar girl whose name is only on the tip of my tongue (Jarvis) and Evvie Rodriguez all told me about seeing Oswald with a Mexican who Orest said was a reporter.

Note the number of people Bringuier says were helping Oswald. Not all alone.

Instead of File that should be CD or CR 1203a. I gave Dave Wrone my list of them so I can't consult it for you.

The Geraci boy was at Bringuier's often. I had a Jeff Garish juvenile report on him that goes into that aside from my own sources but that report was stolen when someone copied it, I guess. It is gone. The juvenile officer was named Bourne.

I arranged for the family lawyer to be present to look out for Philip's interest so she arranged for it at her home. She practised under her maiden Lillian Cohen. She's married a judge Louis Trent. The whole thing sort of blew her mind. Best,

Nacido

The Washington Post

1150 15th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20071-5530

4 February 1997

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21702

Dear Harold,

Thank you for your letters of 24, 25, and 27 November 1996. They were characteristically outspoken.

I want to ask your help locating a document, a letter from Carlos Bringuier to Jose Lanusa. It is quoted in "Oswald in New Orleans" on pp. 204-205 (Canyon Books Edition). A copy is enclosed. I am wondering if you have a copy of this document at your disposal. I have not been able to locate it in the National Archives.

I also want to ask you about this statement you made in your last letter. You wrote "Bringuier is a liar when he says that Oswald was at his palce for the first time August 5. That lie is to explain what he did. It was really much earlier."

Are you basing this entirely on the testimony of Philip Geraci? Is there other evidence that suggests Oswald and Bringuier had contact before August 5?

Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope your health is well.

Sincerely,


Jeff Morley

The Secret Service embellished Martello's recollections and comments, translating his speculations into realities:

He asked him (Oswald) if any meetings were had on Pine St. and Oswald had replied in the affirmative. He said he had asked him if he was acquainted with Dr. and Oswald replied he was.

At this point civil rights meetings become "communistic."

On the third page of the Gerrets-Counts report of December 6, 1963—the one most of which was eliminated when it was printed as Exhibit 3104—is this paragraph, from which I have removed the name:

Dr. referred to in report dated 12/3/63 by SA A. G. Vial, is of record in the subversive files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New Orleans, ASAC (acting special agent in charge) Joseph Sylvester, FBI, has requested that this office not interview because of their interest in him.

There are not fewer than five exhibits printed by the Commission in which such character destruction of this one man appears, falsely, one-sidedly, without the contrary information contained in the files, and without a word from him in his own defense, if from such nebulous speculations one should need a defense in a country like ours. Now and forever more irresponsible political idiots can defame this man and his family on the basis of this misinformation alone. He is without recourse.

It is exactly the same with those said to be homosexuals. Such men are subject to all sorts of private pressures and punishments, to penalties in employment, to blackmail. An example of how the regulations were followed in this case is File 1203a, the June 4, 1964, report of FBI Agents deBruyns and Callender of their interview with Carlos Bringuier. DeBruyns translated the letter from Spanish. I quote from the seventh, eighth and ninth pages, again making the deletions

204

that should be made to protect these men:

Bringuier's letter to Lawson

"Here are some loose things I have heard mentioned: The police here were looking for a certain 'Chay Bertrand' who is a pervert. They say Ruby was also a pervert. One of these individuals that was distributing handbills with Oswald has a face that appears to me to indicate that he is also a pervert. (If we follow that logic we would also have to think that Raul is the one that is behind all this 'joke'.) I advised Secret Service that one of those who was distributing handbills with Oswald was working in Pap's Supermarket located on Mirabeau Avenue and who, last year, had attended Delgado Trade School. He mentioned that his name might possibly be Charles and that he regularly got out of the bus at Paris Avenue and Finmore Street. I am given to understand that this was correct but I have learned nothing more. I have given them other information, for example, that Oswald was, on one occasion after his difficulty with me in the Habana Bar, which is just two doors from my store, Oswald asked for a lemonade and when they collected for it he said that surely the owner had to be a Cuban capitalist. On that occasion Oswald was accompanied by a Mexican. After that the Mexican returned with another Mexican to the Habana Bar. The FBI was making inquiries for them and left word that if they saw them again, to call there. A few days later the brother of the owner of the Habana Bar appeared and asked me to call the FBI because he had seen two Mexicans in an automobile and he had noted the license number but not the state. I called the FBI on that occasion and gave them the information by telephone. This occurred between August 15 and August 30, 1963 approximately. A certain person surmises (but this is just a presumption) that the delegate of the Mexican Government here should know something, pointing out that this individual is a Mexican and the one who had been in the Habana Bar was a Mexican; also the delegate travels to Mexico and from there to Havana (the motive is not known) and added to all this the delegate is a pervert. Speculating on these things one learns that the delegate is a friend of a Cuban (also a pervert) who is called This is also a friend of another Cuban known as Leonardo This was chief of something in the Zapata Swamp under the orders of Che (Translator's note—Che is undoubtedly Che Guevara of the Cuban Regime) until after the Bay of Pigs (Invasion). He speaks some Russian and some weeks ago told me he had been thinking about taking a trip to Mexico. As you will note, the majority of these things are suppositions and speculations. "Well, Jose Antonio give my regards to all and receive an embrace from your friend, Carlos Bringuier, New Orleans."

Mr. BRINGUIER related that he made available contents of the above-translated letter with the provision that sections of the letter referring to individuals that he has suspected as being "perverts" would not be divulged to any public sources and that that section be limited for the use of the Warren Commission and the FBI only. He explained further that he did not want any of his speculative statements to be revealed publicly but had no objection to the contents of the first two paragraphs and the part regarding the person referred to as CHARLES

205

being revealed to public sources.

Mr. BRINGUIER was able to describe the Mexican delegate in New Orleans as a white male, in his late 30's, BRINGUIER explained he has talked to the Mexican delegate in New Orleans on various occasions during the last four months or so and states that on one occasion, the Mexican delegate mentioned that he had been to Cuba. He does not know whether the Mexican delegate told him this a month or four months ago nor does he know when the Mexican delegate was in Cuba, that is to say, whether it was recently or quite some time ago.

BRINGUIER did recall that in one of his conversations with the Mexican delegate, the latter did say that he could go to Mexico inasmuch as Mexico and Cuba maintain friendly relations, one with the other. BRINGUIER also recalls the Mexican delegate mentioned on one occasion that he could get people out of Cuba. BRINGUIER then recalled there was a rumor that LEONARDO planning to go with the Mexican delegate to Mexico some time ago so that the Mexican delegate could go to Cuba to get LEONARDO's sister out of Cuba. BRINGUIER does not know if there was any truth to the rumor but states he does know that LEONARDO and the Mexican delegate are back in New Orleans from an alleged trip to Mexico and LEONARDO's sister is still in Cuba.

BRINGUIER remarked that ORLANDO PIEDRA, who was formerly head of the Federal Police in Cuba under the Regime of FULGENCIO BATISTA, has told BRINGUIER that he feels quite certain that the Mexican delegate is "OK." BRINGUIER states this meant that in ORLANDO PIEDRA's opinion, the Mexican delegate is not pro-CASTRO.

This is how the assassination of President Kennedy was investigated.

However, there is no question of the broad involvement of whatever nature of a number of people who are or are alleged to be perverts. Their involvement, I suggest, is not because of their homosexuality but because of their beliefs or for other reasons. The most intriguing, the most unorthodox of these offbeats and the most important is the "swinger," the mother-hen of his fellow deviates, the "bi-sexual" Clay Bertrand.

9. "CHECKED OUT AND FOUND CLEAR"

Shielded by a high white wall, the house at 1313 Dauphine Street in the heart of the Vieux Carré in New Orleans has a split personality. It is a luxurious showplace, with a small fountain bubbling in its patio on the outside and silk on the walls inside. It combines the best of two eras, the charm and antiquity of the old "French Quarter" and the convenience of a modern swimming pool. Ornamented with statuary and edged with a brick coping, the pool itself has a dual character. It is a place of beauty and of recreation, with the spirit of the modern world and the splendor of the more leisurely past.

It is a small house, low and narrow, the shingled shed roof steeply sloping opposite to what one would expect, toward the front, which is really the side. The Vieux Carré runs from northeast to southwest. The northeastern boundary is Esplanade Avenue, quiet, dignified, and divided by well-kept grassy plot. On the northwest, the quarter is bounded by North Rampart Street. Dauphine is separated from Rampart by Burgundy. The house at 1313 is on the northwest side of Dauphine, one building and a courtyard from Esplanade Avenue. A bus stops between it and the corner. An attractive, antique-style streetlamp has been installed directly opposite the street entrance to 1313, but it sheds no light in the house, for that wall is solid, unbroken by a single window or a door. The brick wall, cemented over and painted sparkling white, rises from the inside edge of the narrow old gray-slab sidewalk. Entrance to the residence is through the courtyard whose old but freshly painted blood-red door, brilliant in the white brick courtyard wall, is a single low step up from the sidewalk. Twenty inches above the top of the door is a row of jagged, white-painted bottles imbedded in concrete, tops broken off. These were