

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/4/64

1

CARLOS BRINGUIER furnished a copy of a letter written in the Spanish language, a translation of which is set forth below. He mentioned that this is the letter he referred to on April 8, 1964 at New Orleans, Louisiana, in a deposition to Mr. WESLEY LIEBLER of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. In his deposition, he mentioned that he had reported to the Secret Service in New Orleans that OSWALD had been in the Habana Bar, 117 Decatur Street, sometime prior to the assassination of President KENNEDY. While giving his deposition, he referred to the below-quoted letter as a reminder of the fact that he had given such information to Secret Service regarding a man who had worked at Pap's Supermarket.

The following is a translation of a copy of BRINGUIER's letter by SA WARREN C. deBRUEYS of the New Orleans Office:

"New Orleans, November 27, 1963

"Mr. Jose Antonio Lanuza
American Matters
Student Revolutionary Directorate
Miami, Florida

"Dear Jose Antonio:

"I am enclosing a page of the Times Picayune newspaper in which there is a picture of the 'Guidebook for Marines.' I am also attaching a photostat of part of a printed matter that I delivered on the night of August 21 instant to the Times Picayune, New Orleans States-Item, UPI, WDSU-Radio, WWL-TV, who unfortunately did not publish same at that time and I tell you, unfortunately, because you will observe that this Delegate requested at that time that American citizens write their Congressmen in order that a complete investigation be opened on Lee H. Oswald, a confessed Marxist; perhaps if that had been published, John F. Kennedy would still be alive today.

On 6/4/64 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 100-16601
by SAs WARREN C. deBRUEYS
AND STEPHEN M. CALLENDER /lyc Date dictated 6/4/64

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.

Here again it is I and not the government who delete the names of those damaged by the Bringuiet rumor-mongering.

57
52
452

"Up to the present time I have not been able to obtain a photostat of the pamphlet bearing the name 'A. J. Hidell' but I will continue trying to acquire one.

"Here are some loose things I have heard mentioned: The police here were looking for a certain 'Clay Bertrand' who is a pervert. They say Ruby also is 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 Filmore 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 the 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 tourist 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 friend of a Cuban~~. Speculating on these things one learns that the delegate is a friend of a Cuban (also a pervert) who is called ~~Jose E. Jimenez~~. This

53

457

██████████ is also a friend of another Cuban known as Leonardo Silva. This Silva 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 being revealed to public sources.

Mr. BRINGUIER was able to describe the Mexican tourist delegate in New Orleans as a white male, in his late 30's, approximately 5'9" tall, 164 pounds, with light-colored hair, who dresses neatly. BRINGUIER explained he has talked to the Mexican tourist delegate in New Orleans on various occasions during the last four months or so and states that on one occasion, the Mexican tourist delegate mentioned that he had been to Cuba. He does not know whether the Mexican tourist delegate told him this a month or four months ago nor does he know when the Mexican tourist 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 tourist 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 tourist delegate mentioned on one occasion that he could get people out of Cuba. BRINGUIER then recalled there was a rumor that LEONARDO SILVA, referred to in the above-translated letter, was allegedly planning to go with the Mexican tourist delegate to Mexico some time ago so that the Mexican tourist delegate could go to Cuba to get LEONARDO SILVA's sister out of Cuba. BRINGUIER does not know if there was any truth to the rumor but states he does know that LEONARDO SILVA and the Mexican tourist delegate are back in New Orleans from an alleged trip to Mexico and LEONARDO SILVA'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 tourist delegate is "OK". BRINGUIER states this meant that in ORLANDO PIEDRA's opinion, the Mexican tourist delegate is not pro-CASTRO.

57

459

11/25/63

Date

1

OSCAR W. DESLATTE, Assistant Manager, Truck Sales, Bolton Ford Company, 1483 North Claiborne Avenue, advised that he recalled two men coming to Bolton Ford on January 20, 1961. He remembered the date and following information as he had in his possession a bid for purchase form made out to Friends of Democratic Cuba, 402 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, (Telephone Number JA 5-0763).

He said a Mr. JOSEPH MOORE, whose description he cannot remember, nor can he furnish any other identifying data regarding him, advised him that he and his friend, were representing the above organization and wished to purchase ten Ford Econoline Trucks. DESLATTE said MOORE listed the equipment he desired on the trucks, but he did not state whether they were for use here in the United States or were to be sent to Cuba. DESLATTE quoted him the price and advised that he would make a \$75 profit on each truck. MOORE said that he thought they should get the trucks for no profit for his organization. MOORE then told him that he should change the name on the bid form from MOORE to OSWALD, no first name given. The individual with MOORE then said that was his name and it should go on the form as he was the man with the money and would pay for the trucks, if they were purchased.

DESLATTE was exhibited a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and he said he cannot recall ever having seen him before nor could he say this was the individual who had come in with MOORE. DESLATTE said he could neither describe nor identify either of the men who came in as it was almost three years ago that they were there and only spent a short time with him. He said he remembered this incident, not by the name OSWALD, but because of the name of the organization represented.

DESLATTE said that he, himself, filled out the above mentioned bid form completely and neither individual either handled it or signed it. He said that he made the original of this form available to them and retained a carbon copy of this form for his use, which he said he made available to the interviewing Agents.

On 11/25/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69
by SA's WILLIAM F. MC DONALD & W. J. DANIELSON, JR./lrs Date dictated 11/25/63

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.

677
While Lee Harvey Oswald was in the Soviet Union - before the Bay of Pigs - another New Orleans Oswald was helping a CIA-front group of anti-Castro Cubans. This was of no interest to the Commission, is not in its Report or 10,000,000 words of printed evidence, but is in its files, in the second part of No. 75, where it is page 677. Much of this file is still suppressed. Perhaps this report is an indication of some of the reasons.

58
460

1

Date 11/25/63

SAM MIKE NEWMAN, owner of the office building located at 544 Camp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, residence address 1337 Mithra Street, New Orleans, advised that approximately eight to nine months ago he rented office space at 544 Camp Street, which he believed was office number 6 or 7 to several Cubans, names unknown, who were with the Cuban Revolutionary Association. Mr. NEWMAN said he had seen these Cubans previously around the office of GUY BANISTER, Guy Banister Associates, but he did not know their names. Mr. NEWMAN stated he believes one of these individuals was SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH who at that time appeared to be the head of the organization but was later replaced by LUIS RABEL. He said that SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH after being replaced as head of the organization was engaged in selling life insurance in New Orleans. NEWMAN stated that LUIS RABEL could be contacted at telephone numbers WH 7-5544 and 288-7905.

Mr. NEWMAN stated the Cuban Revolutionary Association did not have any money to pay rental on the office space at the time they obtained this space but were to pay rental to him from proceeds derived from a city wide fund collecting campaign they were conducting to raise money for the Cuban people.

Mr. NEWMAN related that the Cuban Revolutionary Association occupied office space at 544 Camp Street for approximately three or four months during which time they did not pay him any rental on the office space they occupied. He said that approximately 1½ months after they moved from the premises he received a check for \$100 from a Mr. GRIMALDI located in the Audubon Building, who was a volunteer bookkeeper for the organization.

A photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD was exhibited to Mr. NEWMAN at which time he advised that to the best of his knowledge he has no recollection of seeing OSWALD in or around the building located at 544 Camp Street and does not have any recollection of any individual by that name contacting him in regard to the rental of office space in his building.

Mr. NEWMAN further informed that he has never rented office space to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee or

On 11/25/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO/89-69
 by SA ERNEST C. WALL, JR. and
SA LAWRENCE F. FOLSE/jab Date dictated 11/25/63

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. 680

This series of reports from the second part of File 75, beginning with page 680, reflect anything but an FBI determination to discover fact and establish truth. They are in conflict with Secret Service reports. They reveal that no investigation was made, either.

54

480

anyone representing that organization. He further stated that he has not been contacted by or rented office space to anyone by the names of V. T. LEE, A. J. HIDELELL, A. T. HIDELELL, ALEK JAMES HIDELELL or O. H. LEE.

Mr. NEWMAN recalled that not over two months ago a man telephonically contacted him wanting to rent an office in the building and at that time furnished his name and the name of the organization he represented but Mr. NEWMAN was unable to recall either name. Mr. NEWMAN stated he is certain the name of the organization had nothing to do with Cuba. The individual who telephonically contacted him wanted the office open at night for meetings of the organization and informed him all he needed was a desk and about fifteen chairs. Mr. NEWMAN stated he had no further contact with this unknown individual who had telephonically contacted him. However, he stated that he believes his janitor, JAMES ARTHUR saw this individual at the building at 544 Camp Street, and talked to him.

Mr. NEWMAN further recalled that about nine or ten months ago a tall, thin man, about 38 years of age, with dark hair contacted him and arranged for the rental of office space at the building at 544 Camp Street. This man told him that he worked as an electrician during the day and desired to teach Spanish at night. This unknown man paid one month's rent of \$30 or \$40 in advance. Mr. NEWMAN said this individual came back the following week and informed him that he had been unable to get enough students to enroll in the Spanish course to "justify fooling with the class" and that he had changed his mind and no longer wanted the office space. The man told NEWMAN to keep the money he had paid in advance rent. Mr. NEWMAN said that he would endeavor to locate a record of this individual's name and if successful he would furnish the name of this individual to the FBI.

The day after I left New Orleans, Garrison subpoenaed William S. and Julius J. Oswald. On May 9, the omniscient Washington Post, which on this subject teaches the Pope holiness, ran this editorial:

Guilt by Name

Jim Garrison, the bombastic district attorney of New Orleans, has apparently discovered a new way to look for evidence. Still seeking gamely to find something to substantiate his charge that President Kennedy's assassination was the result of a major conspiracy, Mr. Garrison is now calling in people named Oswald. His purpose is to ask them about Lee Harvey Oswald, as if, by talking to all the Oswalds in New Orleans, he can find something other investigators overlooked.

This is a rather peculiar way to run an investigation but, then, there have been a good many peculiar happenings in Mr. Garrison's office recently. The potential, however, is fascinating. Just

think what might have happened if the District Attorney of New York had called in Bud Costello to ask about Frank's activities? Or if the Marshals of the Old West had called Henry and William James to ask about Jesse?

The field for Mr. Garrison is unlimited. After he finishes with all the Oswalds in New Orleans, he can move his show elsewhere. And, of course, he can call all those people named Ruby. There must be enough Oswalds and Rubys in the country to keep Mr. Garrison's investigation going for some time, maybe enough to last through the next election.

We hope Mr. Garrison is enjoying the show he is supervising. Nobody else is.

1

Date November 25, 1963

FRANK BARTES, 1608 Mason Smith Avenue, Metairie, Louisiana, delegate to the Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that SERGO ARCACHA SMITH was formerly the delegate for the Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans, Louisiana. BARTES stated that the Cuban Revolutionary Council is an anti-Castro organization.

On 11/25/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69
by SA ERNEST C. WALL, JR. /sw Date dictated 11/25/63

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.

682

1

Date November 25, 1963

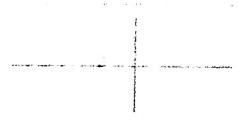
GUY BANISTER, Guy Banister Associates, Inc., 531 Lafayette Street, New Orleans, was telephonically contacted on November 25, 1963 and advised that SERGO ARCACHA SMITH of the Cuban Revolutionary Council, who was the head of that organization in New Orleans, Louisiana, some time ago, had told him on one occasion that he, SMITH, had an office in the building located at 544 Camp Street. Mr. BANISTER stated that he had seen a young Cuban man with SMITH on a number of occasions in the vicinity of 544 Camp Street, but could not recall the name of this young man.

On 11/25/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-69
by SA ERNEST C. WALL, JR. /sw Date dictated 11/25/63

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.

683

These are hardly serious FBI reports of serious FBI investigations. They reveal less than the average agent carried in his memory, much less than the files contained, less than was public knowledge, and are a compound of deception. Bannister was a former FBI agent and high-ranking New Orleans police official. His business was detective work. He knew Arcacha well and arranged for the rental of the CRC office, which, despite the studied deception of the FBI language, was in the same building as Bannister's office, very close to the FBI's own office.



61 463

Date November 29, 1963

JESSE R. CORE, III, 3022 St. Charles Avenue, stated that he was presently Director of the Jesse R. Core Public Relations Firm located in Room 211 International Trade Mart, 134 Camp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, and added that he was also presently doing public relations political work for his client ROBERT F. KENNON, Candidate for Governor, State of Louisiana.

He stated that sometime during the middle of the month in September, 1963 when he was conferring with political associates at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, he heard a rumor that someone was picketing the International Trade Mart and telephoned radio station WDSU to inquire if the Trade Mart was being picketed. He stated that he was informed that it had been reported that pickets were located at this mart and CORE added that he was aware that this mart had previously been picketed by extremist groups, the names of which groups he had never been made aware but explained that to his knowledge they were small groups of males but predominately females who picketed both City Hall and International House at New Orleans, as these buildings had displayed the United Nations Flag.

CORE stated that he immediately went over to this mart to "see what was going on" and noted at this location two persons who appeared to be handing out leaflets bearing the notation "Hands Off Cuba" and a name stamped "L. H. OSWALD, 4907 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana".

He stated that at this location he immediately conferred with a friend of his and Trade Mart Associate named JOHN ALICE, owner of John Alice & Company, Import Export Firm, International Trade Mart, 124 Camp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. He stated that ALICE showed him a handbill similar to the one described above and CORE added that he was so angered with the entire idea of someone passing out such handbills, that he immediately wadded the handbill up and threw it in the face of one person passing out such handbills. CORE stated in addition he cursed this individual and called him a Communist.

CORE explained that the person at whom he threw this handbill moved his head slightly and did not speak to him but gave him a "cold and icy" stare.

On 11-29/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 89-89 DALLAS 89-43
by SA JAMES ROYCE PECK /dc Date dictated 11/29/63

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.

NO 89-69
DALLAS 89-447dc

CORE stated that on this occasion he did not know the name of this individual but explained that without any doubt this individual was directing the activities on this occasion at the Trade Mart and further explained that it was not until November 22, 1963 when LEE HARVEY OSWALD's picture appeared on television that he was aware that the individual who was passing out these handbills on this occasion was identical with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He advised that neither prior to this occasion nor subsequent to it had he seen this individual with the obvious exception of seeing OSWALD's picture on television in connection with the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. He described OSWALD as approximately under 30, 5'8" tall, 150 pounds, appearing frail with his hair thinning in front and appearing dark but not black.

Shortly after the above described incident CORE stated he went to his office in the Trade Mart and while there received a telephone call from someone located at Radio Station WDSU who inquired of CORE if a cameraman had arrived at the Trade Mart and if pictures were being taken of the activity at this location. He stated that he informed the person who called from this station that while he was observing the activity at this location a photographer from this radio station was observed to be taking pictures.

CORE was furnished copies of approximately six photographs taken by Radio Station WDSU on this occasion and picked out an individual from among persons represented in these photographs as identical with the individual he saw at the Trade Mart during September, 1963 and added that this same individual was, in his opinion, identical with OSWALD.

CORE continued to examine the photographs referred to and picked out a white male described by CORE below as being an associate of OSWALD's on this occasion but added that he did not know the name of this individual.

White
Male
6'1"
175 pounds