

SA 105-2909

immediate vicinity of the Agencia de Viajes, Transportes Chihuahuenses, S. A. de C. V. (Chihuahuenses Transportation Travel Agency, Inc.), with offices at Paseo de la Reforma No. 52, Room 5, where LEE HARVEY OSWALD, as H. O. LEE, is believed to have purchased a bus ticket for his return trip from Mexico City to the United States:

"Arte Fotografica," Lafragua No. 4, Mexico City.

"Danubio Studio," Avenida Reforma No. 12, Mexico City.

The photographic studio located at Calle Antonio Caso No. 31, Mexico City.

It is noted that investigation disclosed that the negatives are retained by these photographic studios by date only and the names of the persons photographed are not recorded.

The following investigation conducted by Special Agent HAROLD H. CROSSETT was done to attempt to locate FRANCISCO MORALES and ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ, both of whom were reportedly at the Hotel Del Comercio in Mexico City during or about the same time LEE HARVEY OSWALD was reportedly there.

AT REYNOSA, TAMAULIPAS, MEXICO:

On June 15, 1964, SA T-1, a confidential source abroad, advised he had determined that ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ is a masonry contractor who, until recently, was on a job in Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas, Mexico, but had returned to Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico.

On June 16, 1964, SA T-1 advised that ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ furnished the following information:

He was in Mexico City during the last few days of September, 1963, and possibly the first day or two of October, 1963. He stayed at the Hotel Del Comercio in Room Number 8 with FRANCISCO MORALES whom he was attempting to aid in obtaining employment.

While there he noticed an American whom he later recognized from news media photographs as LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He did not associate with OSWALD, and as far as he knows, MORALES did not associate with OSWALD. He pointed out that at that time he had no reason to pay any particular attention to OSWALD, assuming that OSWALD was merely an American tourist.

During the time he was staying at the Hotel Del Comercio he also noticed four Cubans, one of whom he heard, probably from MORALES, was from the State of Florida, U. S. A. He described this individual as a white male, 33 to 36 years of age, 5 ft. 8 in. in height, slender build, fair complexion, and gray hair. He did not associate with the Cubans and did not learn their names or addresses. However, MORALES had some drinks with them on one or two occasions and might possibly have their names or other information pertaining to them.

SA 105-2909

He saw OSWALD with the Cubans at the hotel on one or two occasions, but these meetings appeared to be social in nature.

LIMA further stated that GABRIEL CONTRERAS V., a retired railroad man who resides at Primera de Mayo Number 1, Ciudad Camargo, Chihuahua, Mexico, was also staying at the Hotel Del Comercio and may have some information pertaining to the Cubans. CONTRERAS probably saw OSWALD at the hotel.

SA T-1 also advised he had located a sister of FRANCISCO MORALES in Reynosa who stated her brother left Mexico City and traveled to Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico, seeking employment. He was unsuccessful and recently went to Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, where he is currently located; however, she does not have an address for him at the present time. She stated she expects to hear from him in the near future and will obtain an address.

- 5 -

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450--Continued

SA 105-2909

As has been previously reported, OSWALD was registered from September 27, 1963, through October 1, 1963, in Room Number 18 of the Hotel del Comercio located at Calle Bernardino de Sahagun Number 19, Mexico, D. F., Mexico.

The records of the hotel reflect that ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ, Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, was registered in Room Number 8 on September 26, 1963, and FRANCISCO MORALES, also of Reynosa, was registered in Room Number 8 from September 27, 1963, through October 1, 1963.

4

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450--Continued

1

SA 105-2909

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent JAMES R. WILSON:

AT REYNOSA, TAMAULIPAS, MEXICO

On July 10, 1964, SA T-1, a confidential source abroad, advised that on June 28, 1964, the Source had located and interviewed FRANCISCO MORALES of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, in Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico. MORALES advised the Source as follows:

MORALES was in Ciudad Victoria seeking employment, and he might leave in the near future to travel to Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, for the same purpose.

MORALES was registered with ERNESTO LIMA in the Hotel del Comercio in Mexico City in September and October, 1963, exact dates unrecalled, while seeking employment with the federal government. He does not recall having seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD during his stay there. The only other hotel guests at that time whose names he recalls were GABRIEL CONTRERAS of Chihuahua, Mexico, and one ARTURO CHAVEZ MARTINEZ, a Mexican Federal employee who is supposed to reside at Zaragoza Number 58, Ciudad de Maiz, San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and who was supposed to be assigned to work at Bahia de Todos Santos, Baja California, Mexico. CHAVEZ attempted to sell MORALES an illegal Customs receipt for use in bringing an automobile into Mexico without paying import duties. On two occasions MORALES had drinks with two Cubans who stayed at the hotel, one of whom was going to Florida and was arranging immigration papers. Both Cubans were in their late forties or fifties, were about five feet eight inches in height, and the one going to Florida wore dark glasses most of the time. The names of these Cubans and other hotel guests should be known to a Hotel del Comercio employee named SEBASTIAN.

The Source advised MORALES was reluctant to discuss the above matters, and Source believes MORALES did not divulge all information in his possession.

5

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450--Continued

1

Date July 13, 1964

ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ, advised as follows:

He is a masonry contractor by trade and is presently out of work. He resides several miles outside of Reynosa on the Monterrey Highway, and is usually in downtown Reynosa during the daytime. His surname is LIMA, JUAREZ being his mother's maiden name.

LIMA, and FRANCISCO MORALES, a close friend, went to Mexico City and registered at the Hotel del Comercio on about September 18, 1963. The purpose of the trip was to attempt to obtain employment for MORALES in the Comision Federal de Electricidad (Federal Electric Power Commission) in Mexico City. They were contacting officials and persons necessary for such purpose during the major portion of each day. When they returned to the hotel, LIMA, age 58, usually went up to the room and MORALES, a younger man, would stay in the hotel lobby. They were not acquainted with any hotel guests prior to registering at the hotel. MORALES became acquainted casually through friendly overtures with several of the hotel guests whom MORALES later introduced to LIMA. They thusly became acquainted with one GABRIEL CONTRERAS of Chihuahua, Mexico, whom LIMA believes to be a retired railroad man. They also became acquainted casually soon after their arrival with three Cubans who were residing at the hotel on the second floor, room numbers unknown. They had drinks with the Cubans, names unrecalled, several times. LIMA believes the three Cubans they met at first were in the hotel when LIMA and MORALES registered. Two of the Cubans were Negro males whom he recalled only as young, tall and slender, and one of them resided with and was supported by a Cuban Negro woman in the hotel. The third Cuban was a white male, age 44-46, 5' 10" to 5' 11", dark hair and eyes, dark complexion. These three Cubans had no apparent occupation.

On about September 23, 1963, these three Cubans went to the airport at Mexico City and met a fourth Cuban who arrived by plane from Cuba. He was described as white, male, age 54-58 years, 5' 7" to 5' 8", brown greying hair,

On 7/10/64 at Reynosa, Tamps., Mexico File # SA 105-2909

by SA JAMES R. WILSON/mjb Date dictated 7/10/64

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6

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450—Continued

2

SA 105-2909

gray mustache, who claimed to have owned a large ranch near Havana, Cuba, which ranch was confiscated by CASTRO. The four Cubans were anti-CASTRO and denounced CASTRO for his actions, policies, and political philosophy. The latter Cuban departed Mexico City via plane enroute to Miami, Florida, to join his wife, having received money by check from Florida. His departure was on about October 8, 1963. Sometime before this Cuban departed, a street photographer took a picture of LIMA, MORALES, CONTRERAS, and the two older Cuban men. Each person signed his name on the reverse of his respective likeness in the photograph, and this photograph was retained by CONTRERAS.

On two occasions in about the latter part of September, 1963, LIMA saw a young American male talk briefly in English to the two Cuban Negroes at the entrance of the hotel. LIMA believes these were merely exchanges of friendly greetings, but he is not certain due to his being able to understand only a few English words. This young man and MORALES never met to LIMA's knowledge, nor did LIMA meet this young man. MORALES does not speak or understand English. This young man is described only as about twenty-six years of age, having receding hair at each side of his forehead forming a widow's peak. LIMA believes but is not positive that this young man may be identical with OSWALD. He saw no other individual who resembles OSWALD in any way.

In October, 1963, funds used by LIMA and MORALES were becoming depleted, and the hotel bill could not be paid. LIMA then requested MORALES return to Reynosa, Mexico, to seek funds with which to pay the hotel bill. MORALES then checked out about October 12, 1963, and LIMA remained at the hotel. MORALES never returned with and never sent any money to LIMA, and on about November 18, 1963, LIMA arranged with the hotel to pay the bill at a later date and check out. He returned to Reynosa, Mexico. He later sent the money to the hotel from Reynosa.

When there was later publicity about OSWALD, LIMA saw the photographs of OSWALD in local news media. Those news media photographs, however, were not clear and LIMA at that time was not sure the young man referred to above was OSWALD. Due to the lapse of time, LIMA cannot state, after looking at a good and clear photograph of OSWALD, whether or not this young man at the hotel referred to is identical with OSWALD.

- 7 -

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450—Continued

SA 105-2909

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent ROBERT L. CHAPMAN at Laredo, Texas, to locate MARTIN SUMAYA, the person who reportedly occupied Room Number 5 at the Hotel del Comercio, Mexico City, on September 27, 1963.

SA T-2 advised on July 10, 1964, that he had located MARTIN SUMAYA residing at Dr. Mier Number 2119, Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, and interviewed SUMAYA relative to his stay at the Hotel del Comercio on September 27, 1963.

SUMAYA advised that he is an employee of the Mexican Petroleum Industry and makes frequent trips to Mexico City and other parts of Mexico. SUMAYA stated that he has known the owner of the Hotel del Comercio for the past twenty years and frequently stays at that hotel when in Mexico City. SUMAYA stated that he recalls nothing concerning his stay in Room Number 5 on September 27, 1963, and definitely does not recall seeing LEE HARVEY OSWALD around the Hotel del Comercio. SUMAYA advised that he did not recall the exact dates he was at the Hotel del Comercio in September, 1963, nor did he recall the exact mode of transportation he was using, but stated that it must have been Transportes Frontera since he always travels by bus and almost always uses Transportes Frontera Bus Lines. SUMAYA further stated that he believes that on this particular trip in September, 1963, that he returned to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, via Tampico, Mexico.

SUMAYA was shown a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and stated he still did not recall having seen OSWALD or having heard anything concerning him while in Mexico City in September, 1963.

SA 105-2909

The following interview with SA T-2 was conducted in an effort to locate one A. MARTINEZ and one HILDA QUEZADA who reportedly traveled on Transportes del Norte bus from Mexico City to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, on October 2-3, 1963.

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT L. CHAPMAN:

AT LAREDO, TEXAS:

On August 10, 1964, SA T-2 advised that he had conducted continuous investigation in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, through civil records and other sources of information to locate A. MARTINEZ and HILDA QUEZADA, with negative results. SA T-2 advised that in addition he has checked public records and has checked at leading downtown hotels in an effort to locate these two individuals, all with negative results.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

June 23, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

BASIS FOR INQUIRY

As has been previously reported, on September 27, 1963, OSWALD registered at the Hotel del Comercio, Calle (Street) Bernardino de Sahagun No. 19, Mexico City, under the name of LEE, HARVEY OSWALD. His name was continued in the guest records of the hotel through October 1, 1963. He occupied room No. 18.

According to the guest records of the hotel, MARIO RESENDIZ, Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico, occupied room No. 21 from September 26 through October 1, 1963, and GABRIEL CONTRERAS, Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, was a resident of room No. 14 from September 26 through October 1, 1963.

INTERVIEW OF MARIO RESENDIZ VILLANUEVA

On June 18, 1964, MARIO RESENDIZ VILLANUEVA was located and interviewed at the Hotel del Comercio by a confidential source abroad, at which time he furnished the following information:

He formerly resided with his sister in Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico, but now resides at Progreso No. 103, Villa Frontera, Coahuila, Mexico, telephone number 103. He is self-employed, selling religious artifacts, jewelry, and curios which he buys in Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico, and sells throughout the Republic of Mexico.

He comes to Mexico City at irregular intervals and

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450--Continued

usually stays at the Hotel del Comercio. He did not specifically recall staying at the hotel during the September-October, 1963, period mentioned above, but was certain he was there if the hotel record so indicated.

RESENDIZ was shown a number of photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He said this person was unknown to him by name, photograph, or description and went on to state that he had never noted the presence of an American at the Hotel del Comercio.

INTERVIEW OF GABRIEL CONTRERAS UVINA

The following information was supplied by a confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past:

On May 23, 1964, the source located and interviewed GABRIEL CONTRERAS UVINA, who operates an electrical appliance shop at the corner of Gonzalez Ortega and Primero de Mayo streets in Ciudad Camargo, Chihuahua, Mexico. The following information was supplied to the source by CONTRERAS:

CONTRERAS was in Mexico City from September 26, 1963, to October 2, 1963, and resided at the Hotel del Comercio during that period. He always stays at this hotel when he visits Mexico City, which is approximately once every month.

Following the assassination of President KENNEDY on November 22, 1963, CONTRERAS observed photographs of OSWALD in the press. He then recalled that on one occasion at lunch time while eating at the small restaurant next door to the Hotel del Comercio he sat down at a table with an unknown American. It was necessary for him to occupy a table with this unknown American due to the crowded condition of the restaurant at the time. After observing the press photographs of OSWALD which appeared in connection with the publicity concerning the assassination, CONTRERAS reached the definite conclusion that OSWALD was identical with the unknown American with whom he had occupied a table in the restaurant. CONTRERAS advised the source that he did not exchange a single word with OSWALD since it appeared that the latter spoke no Spanish and CONTRERAS does not understand English.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450--Continued

CONTRERAS told source that during his stay at the Hotel del Comercio from September 26 through October 1, 1963, this was the only time he observed OSWALD, and he could furnish no other information concerning OSWALD.



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C.

July 10, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

BASIS FOR INQUIRY

As has been previously reported, OSWALD was registered from September 27, 1963, through October 1, 1963, in Room No. 18 of the Hotel del Comercio, located at Calle Bernardino de Sahagun No. 19, Mexico, D. F., Mexico.

The records of the hotel reflect that ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ, Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, was registered in Room No. 8 on September 26, 1963, and FRANCISCO MORALES, also of Reynosa, was registered in Room No. 8 from September 27, 1963, through October 1, 1963.

On interview in Reynosa on June 16, 1964, ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ, a masonry contractor, advised he was in Mexico, D. F., Mexico, where he stayed in Room No. 8, Hotel del Comercio, for a few days in the latter part of September, 1963, and possibly the first day or two in October, 1963. He was in Mexico, D. F., on business and was accompanied by FRANCISCO MORALES, whom he was attempting to aid in securing employment.

While at the hotel, LIMA JUAREZ noticed an American, whom he later recognized from news media photographs as LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He did not associate with OSWALD, and as far as he knows, MORALES did not associate with OSWALD. He pointed out that at that time he had no reason to pay any particular attention to OSWALD.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2451

-3-

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2450—Continued