

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.

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LIMA JUAREZ also saw four Cubans at the hotel and saw OSWALD associating with these Cubans on one or two occasions, but these meetings appeared to be social in nature. 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. LIMA JUAREZ heard, probably from MORALES, that one of the Cubans was from the State of Florida, U. S. A. He described this individual as a white male, 55 to 56 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches in height, slender build, fair complexion, and grey hair.

INQUIRIES AT HOTEL DEL COMERCIO
CONCERNING ALLEGATIONS OF
ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ

On July 6, 1964, a confidential source abroad obtained the following information:

GUILLERMO GARCIA LUNA, owner and manager of the Hotel del Comercio, pointed out that a previous examination of the hotel register, which lists the nationality of each guest, showed that OSWALD was the only guest who did not list his nationality as Mexican during the entire period that OSWALD was at the hotel. GARCIA LUNA recalled that there were several Cubans who resided at the hotel some time prior to the arrival of OSWALD there. These Cubans were awaiting the issuance of United States visas from the American Embassy in Mexico, D. F., in order to proceed to the United States. He recalled very definitely that all of the Cubans departed the hotel before the arrival of OSWALD and emphasized that there were no Cubans at the hotel during the period of OSWALD's residence there.

GARCIA LUNA said that the records of the hotel show that ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, was a guest at the hotel from September 15, 1963, through October 1, 1963, occupying Room No. 8 during this period. LIMA JUAREZ occupied this room with FRANCISCO MORALES, also of Reynosa. GARCIA LUNA pointed out that the procedure of the hotel is to list in the hotel register on a daily basis the name of the guest

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for each room that is occupied. Where a room is occupied by two or more guests, the name of only one of them is listed for the room. He explained that this was the reason why the name of LIMA JUAREZ appeared as occupying Room No. 8 on September 26, 1963, and the name of FRANCISCO MORALES was shown as occupying the same room from September 27, 1963, through October 1, 1963. He was not well acquainted personally with these two persons but recalled that when they departed, they owed some money to the hotel and left a suitcase as security. Later, a girl, perhaps a daughter of LIMA JUAREZ, came by and paid the debt and picked up the suitcase.

GARCIA LUNA could recall no group of four Cubans who stayed at the hotel during the period when LIMA JUAREZ and MORALES were there; however, he did recall that two Cuban families with children and an older Cuban man had been guests at the hotel during at least part of this period. He knew of no mutual connection among these Cuban people. Inasmuch as the hotel register for the period was not available, he could not locate the names of these people, but he did recall that the older Cuban man was named JULIAN HUERTA and that he was the last of the Cubans to depart the hotel.

GARCIA LUNA checked other records of the hotel and determined that JULIAN HUERTA checked out of the hotel on September 22, 1963. He recalled HUERTA as a white male, about 55 to 60 years of age, about 5 feet 8 inches in height, medium build, grey hair, and fair complexion. GARCIA LUNA very definitely recalled that HUERTA was the last of the Cubans to leave the hotel and concluded that OSWALD could not have associated with any of these Cubans since HUERTA checked out of the hotel on September 22, 1963, five days before OSWALD registered at the hotel.

SEBASTIAN PEREZ HERNANDEZ, desk clerk at the Hotel del Comercio, corroborated the information furnished by GARCIA LUNA. PEREZ HERNANDEZ added that he recalled that FRANCISCO MORALES was a young man about 21 years of age and that ERNESTO LIMA JUAREZ, an older man, was trying to help MORALES find employment.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 14, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Both GARCIA LUNA and PEREZ HERNANDEZ advised that there is no restaurant or bar in the Hotel del Comercio and no liquor is sold there. Neither is there any establishment in the vicinity of the hotel which sells liquor, although beer is served in some of the restaurants in the vicinity of the hotel.

The following information was obtained by the confidential source abroad on July 6, 1964, from the records of the Visa Section of the American Embassy in Mexico, D. F.:

An application for a United States immigration visa was made on August 20, 1963, by JULIAN FRANCISCO HUERTA-OLIVA, a Cuban citizen, born January 28, 1902, in Marinao, Havana, Cuba. The local address at the time the visa application was made was given as the Hotel del Comercio, Sahagun No. 19. He was the bearer of Cuban Passport No. 99428. An O-1 United States immigration visa was issued to him on September 20, 1963. At that time he indicated that he planned to join his wife, ROSELIA ESCALONA, 221 Alton Road, Apartment 21, Miami Beach, Florida. His visa file contained a letter from ROSA QUARANTO, owner of the New Richmond, Miami Beach, Florida, which letter guaranteed employment for HUERTA-OLIVA upon arrival in Miami Beach.

Honorable J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel
The President's Commission
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rankin:

We have acquired through a confidential source abroad a block of passenger lists of the Transportes Frontera Company which was used in connection with the operations of that Company in Mexico City during most of the month of October, 1963. These forms, which are bound together at the top in pad form by a gum-type substance, have been designated Specimen K74. We have also acquired the original of Specimen Q332 which is the passenger list of the Transportes Frontera Company covering the trip by bus 340 from Mexico City to Nuevo Laredo on October 2 and 3, 1963. The name "Oswald" appears in handwriting on line four of Specimen Q332. On examination of aforementioned specimens, it was determined that the handwriting, format, and appearance of the block of passenger lists, Specimen K74, agree with the handwriting, format, and appearance of Specimen Q332. In addition, indented writings and extraneous marks were noted on Q332 which indicate that this sheet was originally on top of the present top sheet in K74.

No indentations were found on the present top sheet in K74 which correspond to the writing in black ink on the top two lines of Q332, the black ink writing on line 40 and immediately below this line, or the handwritten notation in red at the top of Q332 in the wording "Transportes Frontera."

With respect to the handwritten entries on Q332, fragmentary portions of these entries were found to be indented on the present top sheet of K74 except no indented