

OSWALD, Lee Harvey

INVESTIGATION IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA

Matilde MURACCIOLE (Davila), born March 14, 1897 at Tovar, Merida, Venezuela and Maria Cristina Muracciole (note variance in spelling - Caracciola) (Davila) de PIEDRA, born September 10, 1917 at Merida, Venezuela could not be located. However, information from their brother, Jose Ramon MURACCIOLE, revealed that his sisters are now residing in Mexico City, Mexico at Hotel Roosevelt, Av. Insurgentes 287.

Record checks with the following agencies in the name of the sisters MURACCIOLE were non derogatory:

Venezuelan Bureau of Identification, Caracas  
Judicial Technical Police, Caracas  
Direction General of Police, Caracas

NOTE: Final report will be submitted upon receipt of portion now pending at Kingston, Jamaica.



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

March 31, 1964

LEE HARVEY OSWALDBASIS FOR INQUIRY

The information set out below was made available by a confidential source abroad.

According to the records of the Department of Immigration, Mexican Ministry of "Gobernacion" (Interior or Government), Mexico, D. F., Mexico, among tourist cards surrendered by "aliens" departing from Mexico at Nuevo Laredo, State of Tamaulipas, as tourists on October 3, 1963, was the tourist card of Herbert Robert VOORHEES. This card was an FM-5 permit bearing No. 4325846. It was valid for 180 days' stay in Mexico. This tourist card was issued by the Mexican Immigration Service in Nuevo Laredo on June 5, 1963, and the following data was recorded thereon:

VOORHEES entered Mexico at Nuevo Laredo on June 5, 1963, by train with final destination designated as Mexico, D. F. He was described on the tourist card as a male, American citizen; 73 years of age; a widower; retired; born in Beloit, Wisconsin; residence, Overland Park, Kansas. He presented a birth certificate as proof of citizenship. This tourist card carries the typewritten Spanish word "tren" (meaning train), and the Mexican Immigration form FM-11 which constitutes a recapitulation of departures of tourists at Nuevo Laredo on October 3, 1963, records that VOORHEES departed from Mexico by railroad with the final destination of "Overland, P. K." The departure of VOORHEES from Mexico was handled by Mexican Immigration Service employee ALBERTO ARZAMENDI CHAPA.

COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2460

Since VOORHEES departed from Mexico during ALBERTO ARZAMENDI CHAPA's tour of duty between 12:00 midnight and 8:00 AM, October 3, 1963, he was located to determine whether or not he had observed LEE HARVEY OSWALD during his travel.

According to Mexican Immigration records, OSWALD had surrendered his tourist card at Nuevo Laredo to ARZAMENDI CHAPA between 12:00 midnight and 8:00 AM on the same date.

#### INTERVIEW OF HERBERT ROBERT VOORHEES

A confidential source abroad stated that on March 26, 1964, HERBERT ROBERT VOORHEES was residing at Calle Maseson No. 19, Apartment 10, San Miguel de Allende, State of Guanajuato, Mexico, and, upon being located next door to his residence, VOORHEES advised as follows:

His true name is HERBERT FRANCIS VOORHEES, but for unknown reasons his name was listed incorrectly as HERBERT ROBERT VOORHEES on his birth certificate. He uses his true name as a commercial cartoonist.

Until six years ago, he had lived the greater part of his life in Chicago, Illinois, where for twelve years he had resided at the Lake Lane Apartments, 6214 Winthrop Street. He is a widower and for the last six years has traveled, primarily by train, to Mexico, where he has met several friendly Americans and artists in San Miguel de Allende.

He obtains a Mexican tourist card, valid for 180 days' stay in Mexico, which causes him to return to the United States every six months to have his status in Mexico as a tourist re-established for another 180-day period.

He explained that the train from Nuevo Laredo, State of Tamaulipas, Mexico, does not pass through San Miguel de Allende, and he leaves the train at San Luis Potosi, State of San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and travels to San Miguel de Allende by bus.

Initially, he stated he was 74 years of age, hard of hearing, and would have to stop to refresh his recollection

before he could be positive about anything which took place in the past, since he has difficulty remembering the exact details of his travels. He was positive that his last departure from Mexico was by bus and not by train.

He affirmed initially that he last departed Mexico by "Greyhound bus" in the early part of October, 1963. He explained that it was a "Greyhound bus" in his mind because the bus on which he traveled in Mexico had "Greyhound dogs" painted on the sides, the ticket he purchased was a "Greyhound bus ticket," and his journey in the United States was continued on the Greyhound Bus Lines, but in Mexico the name of the bus company he used was Transportes del Norte. He entered Mexico by train some months prior to October 6, 1963, since by this date he had to leave Mexico to renew his tourist card.

At first he could not recall any information concerning the trip he repeatedly referred to as the one taken by him on the "Greyhound bus." He could not recall the exact date he entered Mexico at Nuevo Laredo by train from San Antonio, Texas, to which he proceeded from Kansas City, Kansas, via the "Katy Railroad Line," but he was certain that it was several months prior to October 6, 1963, when his Mexican tourist card would have expired.

By writing down the dates of trips made during 1963, he was able to recall that on or about October 2, 1963, he left San Miguel de Allende at 7:30 AM by "a second-class, yellow bus" for San Luis Potosi, where he arrived just before noon the same day.

At the Transportes del Norte bus station at San Luis Potosi he purchased a ticket straight through to San Antonio, Texas, because Transportes del Norte is affiliated with the Greyhound Bus Lines in the United States. He purchased a Greyhound bus ticket to San Antonio, Texas, which included transportation aboard a Transportes del Norte bus in Mexico. His travel to Nuevo Laredo was aboard a Transportes del Norte bus and from Laredo to San Antonio aboard a Greyhound bus.

After purchasing his ticket, he ate lunch and left San Luis Potosi on a Transportes del Norte bus at about 2:40 PM on October 2, 1963.

He did not know his ticket number, could not recall if his name was registered on a passenger list, and did not know whether or not the bus he boarded had proceeded from Mexico, D. F., to San Luis Potosi. He saw the bus arrive at the bus station at San Luis Potosi but did not remember whether or not passengers were aboard.

He and other passengers boarded the bus at the Transportes del Norte bus station in San Luis Potosi. He assumed the bus he boarded was made up at this city because "it smelled clean." He stated he did not count them, but there were at least four passengers on the bus and probably several more. He did not notice any other Americans aboard the bus.

The bus arrived at Laredo, Texas, at approximately 2:00 AM, October 3, 1963. While aboard the bus at Nuevo Laredo, State of Tamaulipas, Mexico, he had inquired if it would be possible with his type of bus ticket to leave the bus at Laredo, Texas, and later proceed to San Antonio, Texas. He was told that he could take a Greyhound bus at any time later with the "Greyhound bus ticket" which he had purchased. He was emphatic that after he went through U. S. Customs and U. S. Immigration at Laredo, Texas, he reboarded the bus and, at his request, was allowed to disembark from the bus alone on one of the streets in Laredo in order that he could proceed to the Southland Hotel. He could not recall exactly where U. S. Customs and U. S. Immigration are located in Laredo. After resting at the Southland Hotel, he went to the Greyhound bus depot in Laredo that same day and boarded a Greyhound bus, using his through ticket to San Antonio, Texas.

He was very certain that the bus stopped in Mexico at about 1:00 AM on October 3, 1963, at the "Mexican Immigration check station about twelve miles from the Mexican-American border," the lights in the bus were turned on, and a Mexican Immigration official boarded the bus to check each passenger's identification and travel documents.

VOORHEES First Notices American

At this point the Mexican Immigration official ushered a young American man off the bus. This was the first

time VOORHEES realized an American was on the bus. He described the American as about 20 years of age, five feet nine inches tall, not heavy, of medium build, clean-shaven, bareheaded, coatless, and clearly attired in shirt, slacks, and shoes. VOORHEES recalled that he had considered the American lightly clad, since he did not wear a coat during the cool night. VOORHEES repeatedly stated "he was not a beatnik." The American was carrying one small bag, either a zipper bag or a small duffel bag. VOORHEES was unable to describe the exact type of bag but was certain the American did not have a suitcase.

VOORHEES was certain he sat on the right side of the bus because he habitually sits on the right side, looking forward. He remembered that he did not sit toward the front or back but somewhere in the middle of the bus.

During the trip VOORHEES talked with a "Mexican-American" man who sat across the aisle from him. The Mexican-American, whom he remembered as a middle-aged, thin-faced man who spoke both English and Spanish well, said he was going to the United States, but VOORHEES could recall neither his destination nor his name. The Mexican-American was traveling on the bus with his wife and VOORHEES believed he was returning to "his business" in the United States. He gave the impression of being very nervous, smoking one cigarette after another. VOORHEES did not know whether the Mexican-American is a Mexican or a United States citizen. During the trip VOORHEES discussed with the Mexican-American the fact that he, VOORHEES, is a commercial artist.

When the American was taken off the bus, he was taken from the back of the bus to the front, and the Mexican-American remarked to VOORHEES that the American was having trouble over his papers. VOORHEES remembered clearly that when the young American was taken off the bus most of the passengers on the bus were sleeping, and he also recalled that at the beginning of the trip at San Luis Potosi there was some sort of discussion between a Mexican woman and the driver of the bus with regard to a seat number. He could describe neither the Mexican woman nor the bus driver. He was certain that he was not acquainted with anyone aboard the bus.

He recalled that, when the American returned to the bus and walked to the back of it, he mumbled in good English, in a grumbling manner, something like, "My papers were in order before and I don't know why they bother me now - they took my pass before." This was the first time VOORHEES had noticed the American, and he could not state when the latter first boarded the bus. He had the impression the American could not speak Spanish and presumed the American was taken off the bus to the "check station office" where someone must have spoken to him in English.

He clearly recalled seeing the American at the U. S. Customs checking station in Laredo, Texas, at about 1:30 AM, October 3, 1963, when a Mexican woman's luggage was being examined and the young American was standing by. The American was trying to dispose of a banana by eating it hurriedly, "gulping it down," and he was told by a Customs officer that he could carry the banana into the United States and did not have to gulp it down so fast.

When asked if he had talked with or been near the American, VOORHEES stated he was not near the young American at any time during the bus trip or while checking through U. S. Customs at Laredo.

VOORHEES did not recall seeing the American again after he saw him at the U. S. Customs checking station in Laredo and could only presume that the American returned to the bus when all passengers left the checking station and reboarded the bus. VOORHEES left the bus at Laredo by himself when the bus driver let him off on an unknown street with an unscheduled stop at about 2:00 AM, October 3, 1963. He believed that all other passengers remained on the bus until it reached its scheduled destination, which he presumed to be the Greyhound bus depot in Laredo.

After refreshing his recollection about the bus trip from San Luis Potosi to Nuevo Laredo, he was certain the bus arrived at Monterrey, State of Nuevo Leon, Mexico, at about 11:00 PM on October 2, 1963, and all passengers had to change to a smaller bus of the same bus line, Transportes del Norte, to proceed to Nuevo Laredo. He did not see the American

during this change of buses and did not recall seeing him prior to the "check station stop at the 26 kilometer point before arrival at Nuevo Laredo." He believed that some passengers other than those who traveled from San Luis Potosi had boarded the bus at Monterrey, but was not certain of this.

When shown a photograph of OSWALD among other photographs, he immediately recognized the photograph and exclaimed that this was a photograph of OSWALD. When asked how he knew this to be so, he stated he has been a commercial artist all his life, is a member of the Academy of Fine Arts in Chicago, Illinois, and can recognize a face.

He repeated that he was unable to conclude definitely that the young American aboard the bus was OSWALD, stating he could not be positive, but he affirmed strongly that the American was "the same general type" as OSWALD. VOORHEES then said, "How do you like that, if that was OSWALD on that bus and I didn't know it."

When shown a full-length, front-view photograph of OSWALD, he immediately exclaimed that the young American was "about the same size, the same type, and it seems to be him," but VOORHEES would not state positively that the young American was OSWALD, pointing out that he could not make a definite identification of someone he saw only momentarily several months earlier. He was emphatic that there was every similarity between the photographs shown to him and his recollection of the young American aboard the bus but he would not be more definite in connection therewith. He expressed the wish that he had been more observant of the young American on the bus.

He attempted to recall other details about the trip to assist in determining whether or not the young American was identical with OSWALD, but he was unable to do so. He stated that, if he were able to recall any other possible details with regard to the above, he would contact the source.

He could not recall any further details of his trip and the young American and was apologetic for not being able to do so. He stated that, if the incident regarding the

young American at the "Mexican Immigration check station" had happened during the day, he would have sketched the young American's face, as he generally does when there is an incident, and had he done so, others could have decided whether or not the young American was identical with OSWALD.

#### Addresses For VOORHEES

VOORHEES explained that on this occasion he took the bus to make desirable train connections to Kansas City, Kansas, traveling by train from San Antonio, Texas, to Kansas City and from there to the home of his daughter, Mrs. NANCY M. TOUHY, 886 West Army Trail Road, Addison, Illinois, 60101. Upon his return to the United States, he visits his daughter and can be located through her at any time.

He advised that when he is at San Miguel de Allende he can be reached by telephone during the day through RODOLFO PEREZ R., owner of the Auto Mercado Super Market, telephone number 33, which is located next door to Calle Masones No. 19, San Miguel de Allende, State of Guanajuato, Mexico, and he utilizes Post Office Box No. 200, San Miguel de Allende, for receipt of mail.

#### Efforts to Identify Other Passengers

VOORHEES could not identify photographs of JOHN BOWEN, also known as ALBERT OSBORNE. (JOHN BOWEN was a passenger aboard a bus operated by "Servicios Unidos Autobuses Blancos, Flecha Roja, S. A. de C. V." (The Unified Services of White Autobuses Red Arrow, Incorporated) on which OSWALD traveled from Laredo, Texas, to Mexico, D. F., on September 26-27, 1963.)

VOORHEES also was unable to identify the photographs of JUAN MATEO DE CUBA and ADA FRANCISCA BISLIP DE DE CUBA. (JUAN MATEO DE CUBA and his wife, ADA FRANCISCA BISLIP DE DE CUBA, were among the "aliens" who surrendered their tourist cards to Mexican Immigration upon their departure from Mexico at Nuevo Laredo on October 3, 1963, between 12:00 midnight and 8:00 AM.)

According to VOORHEES, the Mexican-American he talked with aboard the bus en route to Nuevo Laredo had a thinner face than that of JUAN MATEO DE CUBA.

The names of the following individuals on the passenger list of Bus No. 340 of the "Transportes Frontera, S. A. de C. V.," bus line for October 2, 1963, were exhibited to VOORHEES and he was unable to recognize any of these names as persons he might know:

FCO. SAUCEDO  
OSWALD (OSWALD)  
SRA. LANDEROS  
ANDRIAN HERNANDEZ  
JUANA  
ANGEL GALLEGOS  
Sra. MORALES  
NICOLAS GONZALEZ  
RAFAEL FLORES  
GAUTIER ? (GANSTINE)  
ANGEL PEREZ  
ANTONIO CAZAREZ  
Sra. AGULLAR  
Sra. FRANCO  
CONSTANTINO GARCIA  
ELIASAR GONZALEZ  
CONSTANTINO GARCIA  
YNIGNES (INIQUEZ)

As noted above, the FM-5 No. 4325846 Mexican tourist card issued to VOORHEES has the word "tren" (train) typed toward the top, which must have been typed on this form when VOORHEES entered Mexico by train with this card, as he states he did.

The foregoing information from VOORHEES fully clarifies that he departed from Mexico on October 3, 1963, via a Transportes del Norte bus, and the FM-11 data to the effect that his exit from Mexico was by train is in error. This is further verified by the fact that Mexican Immigration employee ALBERTO ARZAMENDI CHAPA, who handled VOORHEES' departure, was at the Kilometer 26 highway checking station

during his tour of duty from 12:00 midnight to 8:00 AM on October 3, 1963, and not at a railroad station.

An examination of the March, 1964, issue of the Mexican "Guia de Transportes Aereo y Autotransportes de Mexico" (Guide for Air Travel and Automobile Transportation in Mexico), which is described as the "official publication in Spanish of airline and automobile bus schedules in Mexico," reflects on page nineteen that Transportes del Norte, which connects with Greyhound Lines, Union Bus Lines, Missouri Pacific Lines, and Winter Garden Bus Lines, between Canada and the United States and Mexico, has bus terminals located at Insurgentes No. 137 Sur, Mexico, D. F., and Juan Mendez No. 1355, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. This guide further reflects bus schedule No. 18 for "Mexico-Guadalajara-San Luis Potosi-Monterrey-Torreon, via Central (highway)," with daily departures of Transportes del Norte buses from Mexico, D. F. From a review thereof, it appears that VOORHEES must have traveled aboard the bus which follows the schedule recorded on page nineteen of the above guide and is copied hereinafter:

Leave Mexico, D. F., 8:30 AM  
Arrive San Juan del Rio, Mexico, 10:45 AM  
Leave San Juan del Rio, Mexico, 10:45 AM  
Arrive Queretaro, Mexico, 11:25 AM  
Leave Queretaro, Mexico, 11:25 AM  
Arrive San Luis Potosi, Mexico, 2:00 PM  
Leave San Luis Potosi, Mexico, 2:20 PM  
Arrive Matehuala, Mexico, 4:45 PM  
Leave Matehuala, Mexico, 4:45 PM  
Arrive Saltillo, Mexico, 7:55 PM  
Leave Saltillo, Mexico, 8:00 PM  
Arrive Monterrey, Mexico, 9:30 PM  
Leave Monterrey, Mexico, 10:00 PM  
Arrive Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, 1:30 AM

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2460—Continued

The foregoing passenger list of Bus No. 340 of the "Transportes Frontera, S. A. de C. V.," bus line for October 2, 1963, was exhibited to VOORHEES for the purpose of establishing that he was correct in his statement that he traveled via Transportes del Norte bus line and that he was not confused with travel on a Transportes Frontera bus line. JUAN MATEO DE CUBA and ADA FRANCISCA BILSEP DE CUBA had been interviewed previously and recalled a "Young American" who traveled with them on the bus and who had experienced some trouble making himself intelligible to a Mexican border official. They had stated that they believed their travel was by a Transportes Frontera bus, although subsequent inquiry established that they had traveled on the same Transportes del Norte bus as VOORHEES.

The confidential source abroad advised that on March 30, 1964, VOORHEES furnished the following additional data by telephone from San Miguel de Allende:

He was unable to recognize the following names of tourists who departed from Mexico at Nuevo Laredo on October 3, 1963, as being identical with the Mexican-American and wife who were aboard the bus with him:

AGAPITO DEL RIO  
MANUEL CAPIZ  
GUADALUPE CAPIZ  
LAWRENCE LOPEZ  
MARIA LUISA CRUZ DE LOPEZ  
SALVADOR SEGOBIANO  
MARIA SEGOBIANO  
ROBERTO BALDAZO  
DOLORES BALDAZO ROMERO  
ROBERT L. TARIN  
ELISABETH TARIN

He stated he had tried to recall the Mexican-American's name and had been unable to do so. He described him as being in his late fifties, tall, slender, and very well-dressed and his wife as also being very well-dressed.

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2460—Continued