

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## Copy to:

MM 105-8342  
JJO/neb

Report of: JAMES J. O'CONNOR  
Date: 1/23/64  
Field Office File #: 105-8342  
Title: LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Office: Miami, Florida  
Bureau File #: 105-82555

## Synopsis:

SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON, a Cuban exile at Miami, Fla. attended Newspaper Writers Convention in Mexico City during 11/20-29/63. While in Mexico City, Cuban exile (FNU) BORRELL NAVARROS, employed by Mexican newspaper "Excelsior", told him LEE HARVEY OSWALD had met with a Cuban Embassy official in a Mexico City restaurant during OSWALD's visit to Mexico City about the end of 9/63. On his return to Miami, DIAZ informed ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA, another exile Cuban newspaperman, of the alleged contact of OSWALD and the Cuban Embassy official. FERNANDEZ VARELA, in turn, told JOSE I. LASAGA, a Cuban exile psychologist at Miami, of the contact. LASAGA, in submitting a paper to the White House on the psychological motivations of OSWALD, included information that OSWALD, while in Mexico City in 9/63, met the Cuban Ambassador in a Mexico City restaurant, and they drove off in the Ambassador's car so they could talk privately. LASAGA said he received this information from FERNANDEZ VARELA, who received it from DIAZ VERNON. DIAZ VERNON specifically stated he did not tell FERNANDEZ VARELA that it was the Cuban Ambassador, and said nothing about a car ride by OSWALD and the Cuban Embassy official. DIAZ VERNON said he considered the information received by him from BORRELL NAVARROS as speculative.

Interviews of SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON, ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA, and JOSE I. LASAGA, all Cuban exiles at Miami, Florida, were conducted pursuant to information that LASAGA had submitted a paper to the White House on "Possible Psychological Motivations in the Assassination of President KENNEDY." In his paper, LASAGA, Chief Clinical Psychologist of the Catholic Welfare Service of Miami, Florida, pursued the hypothesis that the motivation of LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY was the influence of FIDEL CASTRO or a CASTRO agent, and that this motivation was developed during OSWALD's trip to Mexico during the period September 27 to October 3, 1963.

The paper of Dr. LASAGA also contained the allegation that OSWALD engaged in an extended interview with the Cuban Ambassador in Mexico whom he had met in a restaurant on the outskirts of Mexico City, and with whom he departed from the restaurant in the Ambassador's car, so that their conversation would not be overheard. In response to specific inquiry, Dr. LASAGA advised a member of the White House staff that he had received the report concerning the contact of LEE HARVEY OSWALD with the Cuban Ambassador from ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA, an employee of the Voice of Cuba in Miami who, in turn, had received it from SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON. DIAZ VERNON reportedly had been in Mexico City following the assassination doing investigative work on behalf of an unnamed principal.

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DETAILS:

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SALVADOR DIAZ VERRON, 58 years of age, residing at 8770 S. W. 21st Street, Miami, stated he arrived in the United States as an exile from the Cuban regime of FIDEL CASTRO on March 19, 1960. He stated he had been Chief of the National Police in Cuba as of 1933, that he had been Chief of the Cuban Military Intelligence Service during the period 1948 - 1952, and that he is primarily, by profession, a newspaperman.

He said he had been in charge of the news desk for the newspaper "Excelcior" published at Havana, Cuba, until it was shut down by the CASTRO regime in August, 1961. DIAZ stated he had been President of the Anti-Communist League of Cuba, and has always been actively opposed to the Communist threat. He pointed out that he has written several anti-Communist books since coming to the United States in exile, and is currently working on one to be entitled, "The Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse," which deals with Communism.

Mr. DIAZ stated that on November 20, 1963, he traveled from Miami to Mexico City to attend a Congress of the International Federation of Professional Newspaper Organizations (FIOPPO), which lasted until November 29, 1963. He stated that on the evening of November 28, 1963, while he was present in the offices of the Mexico City newspaper "Excelcior," he became aware that the Mexican Federal Police had placed under arrest a Mexican citizen named SYLVIA DURAN, who was an employee of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. He said that the Mexican Police had determined that LEE HARVEY OSWALD, on his arrival in Mexico City in the latter part of September, 1963, had contacted DURAN, and had stayed in her home in Mexico City. DURAN was further reported to have placed OSWALD in contact with personnel of the Cuban Embassy, Mexico City.

Mr. DIAZ stated that this information was published in the November 28, 1963, edition of the newspaper "Excelcior." He stated that the Mexican Police and the press, following the assassination of President KENNEDY, were greatly concerned over the visit of OSWALD to Mexico City, because of the speculation that the assassination was planned in Mexico.

Mr. DIAZ continued that while on this visit to Mexico City, he also had contact with a newspaperman who lives in exile in Mexico City named Dr. BOREKLL NAVARROS. He said Dr. BOREKLL is a Medical Doctor, and is employed with the Mexican newspaper "Excelcior." He said Dr. BOREKLL had told him that OSWALD, on the day after his arrival in Mexico City in the latter part of September, 1963, had gone to a restaurant called El Caballo Blanco in Mexico City, together with SYLVIA DURAN, where they met a functionary of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City. He said no mention was made by Dr. BOREKLL that OSWALD and the official of the Cuban Embassy left the restaurant in a car to engage in private conversation.

Mr. DIAZ said that he did not attach any particular importance or accuracy to this meeting of OSWALD and an employee of the Cuban Embassy at the restaurant, because he did not believe Dr. BOREKLL had any firm sources for this information, and further, he regarded Dr. BOREKLL as a person who tended to invent details for a story.

Mr. DIAZ also stated that the alleged meeting at the above restaurant was never reported in the Mexico City newspapers, and this also tended to discredit Dr. BOREKLL's information, in the opinion of Mr. DIAZ.

Mr. DIAZ stated he returned to Miami from Mexico City on November 29, 1963, and shortly thereafter, had occasion to speak with Dr. ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA, whom he described as a former newspaperman in Cuba, and currently

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directing an anti-CASTRO radio program called "The Voice of Cuba." He said he related to Dr. FERNANDEZ the events which had transpired during his visit to Mexico City which were, for the most part, a matter of public information there, concerning the reported contact of OSWALD with an official of the Cuban Embassy.

Mr. DIAZ stated that his trip to Mexico City was strictly personal travel made at his own expense, and that the trip was in no way related to any mission or inquiry by him on behalf of any other person or organization.

SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON, 8770 S. W. 21st Street, Miami, stated his information concerning the alleged meeting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and the Cuban Embassy official in a Mexico City restaurant, about the end of September, 1963, came from the Cuban exile, Dr. BORRELL NAVARROS, employed by the Mexico City newspaper "Excelsior." Mr. DIAZ stated that in relating the information to ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA at Miami, he referred to the person meeting OSWALD as a Cuban Embassy employee, or official, and not as the Cuban Ambassador. He said he did not mention to FERNANDEZ the use of a car by OSWALD and the Cuban Embassy official. Mr. DIAZ stated that to the best of his recollection, BORRELL NAVARROS told him it was a Cuban Embassy officer involved, and not the Cuban Ambassador; also, BORRELL did not tell DIAZ the Cuban official and OSWALD had left the Mexico City restaurant, where they allegedly met, in a car. Mr. DIAZ stated the Mexico City restaurant may have been named the Caballo Bayo, instead of the Caballo Blanco.

Mr. DIAZ said he had made no notes of his conversation with Dr. BORRELL, and he reiterated that he regarded the information of BORRELL as highly questionable.

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2947—Continued

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2947—Continued

Date January 10, 1964

1.

Dr. ANGELO FERNANDEZ VARELA, resident at 3880 N. E. 6th Avenue, Miami, stated that he is in exile from the CASTRO regime in Cuba, and that he had been an attorney in Cuba, and also an editor for the Cuban newspaper "Informacion." He said he is engaged presently in work for the radio program "Voz de Cuba" (Voice of Cuba), which is directed against the CASTRO regime, and he also directs the publication of the Spanish language propaganda leaflet entitled, "Informe Sobre Cuba," (Report on Cuba).

Dr. FERNANDEZ stated that he had known SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON in Cuba as a former police chief during the 1930's, and as a police reporter for the Havana newspaper "Excelsior."

Dr. FERNANDEZ stated that when DIAZ VERNON returned to Miami from Mexico City in the latter part of November, 1963, DIAZ VERNON advised him that while in Mexico City he had had contact with other newspapermen there and had learned that the Mexican Federal Police had arrested a Mexican citizen, SYLVIA DURAN, an employee of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City, because of her connection between OSWALD and the Cuban Embassy.

Dr. FERNANDEZ said DIAZ VERNON also told him that OSWALD had stayed at the home of DURAN, and subsequently met with the Cuban Ambassador in Mexico City at a restaurant called Caballo Bayo, accompanied by SYLVIA DURAN. Dr. FERNANDEZ said he understood from DIAZ VERNON that DURAN, the Cuban Ambassador to Mexico, whose name FERNANDEZ did not know, and OSWALD, reportedly went for a ride together in a car. Dr. FERNANDEZ said that the federal police in Mexico City reportedly had turned over the information concerning these incidents involving OSWALD to the United States Embassy in Mexico City.

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Dr. FERNANDEZ stated that he has regular contact with Dr. JOSE LASAGA, a psychologist for Catholic Welfare Service at Miami, and he related to Dr. LASAGA the information received from SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON. He said he told Dr. LASAGA at the time that while DIAZ VERNON is an honest person, all the statements of DIAZ were not necessarily true, as he believed DIAZ VERNON was inclined to embellish a story to make it more interesting.

Dr. FERNANDEZ stated that DIAZ VERNON had gone to Mexico City from Miami to deliver a speech before an association of newspapermen gathering there. He said he did not tell Dr. LASAGA that DIAZ VERNON was acting on behalf of an unknown principal.

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ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA, 3880 N. W. 6th Avenue, Miami, Florida, maintained that SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON of Miami had told him the person reportedly meeting with LEE HARVEY OSWALD in Mexico City was the Cuban Ambassador, and not just an Embassy officer. Dr. FERNANDEZ stated that according to what DIAZ VERNON told him, the Ambassador and OSWALD had left the Mexico City restaurant together in a car.

Dr. FERNANDEZ said it was possible that slight changes in the specifics of the information received by him from DIAZ VERNON might have occurred in its transmittal to him, and in the succeeding transmittal to Dr. JOSE I. LASAGA, of Miami, from Dr. FERNANDEZ.

1.

Dr. JOSE IGNACIO LASAGA, 50 years of age, residing at 3340 N. E. 7th Avenue, Miami, stated that he came from Cuba as an exile in January, 1962. He stated he had graduated from the University of Havana with a Doctor's Degree in Philosophy, which was an equivalent of a degree in psychology, and that he subsequently had taken graduate work at Harvard University.

He said he is currently engaged as the Chief Clinical Psychologist for Catholic Welfare Service at Miami, Florida, working primarily with Cuban youths. He said he had taken considerable interest as a psychologist in the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY by LEE HARVEY OSWALD, and he had set forth the facts relative to the assassination, and his hypothesis as to the motivation of OSWALD in a paper which he submitted to the White House. He said in submitting his psychological paper, he had also included information from Dr. ANGEL FERNANDEZ VARELA relative to the reported contacts by OSWALD with Cuban agents in Mexico City. He said FERNANDEZ at the time informed him that the information had been received from SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON, whom Dr. LASAGA knows slightly. He stated that his information concerning the reported contact of OSWALD with a Cuban Embassy official came only from ANGEL FERNANDEZ, and he, Dr. LASAGA, had not contacted SALVADOR DIAZ VERNON in this matter.

Dr. LASAGA stated he included this information, which originated with DIAZ VERNON, in the paper submitted to the White House because he wanted to emphasize his point of view that OSWALD had contact with Cuban agents. He pointed out that his hypothesis is that OSWALD was motivated to commit the assassination only after his visit to Mexico City, having there received the necessary impetus to carry out the assassination.

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He stated he did not mention the name of SYLVIA DURAN in connection with the reported contact of OSWALD and the Cuban Ambassador in Mexico City because the fact that DURAN, a Mexican citizen, was involved, was not pertinent to his hypothesis. He said it was his understanding from Dr. ANGEL FERNANDEZ that it was the Cuban Ambassador to Mexico City, name not known, and not some other official of the Cuban Embassy, with whom OSWALD had contact.

Dr. LASAGA stated that although he did not know for whom SALVADOR DIAZ VERSON may have made the trip to Mexico City, he assumed that it would have been subsidized by someone or some agency. He said it was possible, however, that DIAZ VERSON had made the trip for his own purposes and at his own expense.

Dr. LASAGA stated he had in the past acted as a delegate-general for the anti-CASTRO organization Movimiento Recuperacion Revolucionaria (Revolutionary Recovery Movement), and still cooperates with that organization giving lectures, but is no longer a member of the Executive Committee.

He said he is currently engaged in writing a book on the psychological motivations of Communism.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

January 23, 1964

Commission Exhibit 2947

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

A confidential source abroad has advised as follows:

HOMOBONO ALCARAZ ARAGON, Calle Anaxagoras #232, Apartment #22, Colonia Narvarte, Mexico, D. F., on January 22, 1964, advised that he is a graduate of the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (National Autonomous University of Mexico) at Mexico, D. F.; that he has to complete his thesis to qualify for a law degree from this University, and that he contemplates further studies in France later in 1964 on a scholarship grant.

ALCARAZ ARAGON stated that he is engaged to an American student, BARRIE MILLMAN, who attends the University of California at Berkeley, California, and that she visited ALCARAZ ARAGON at Mexico City during the Christmas 1963 holiday season.

During this visit, everyone in Mexico, according to ALCARAZ ARAGON, was talking about the assassination of President JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY and ALCARAZ ARAGON stated that he mentioned to BARRIE MILLMAN the possibility that a young American, STEVE KENNAN, described by ALCARAZ ARAGON as a pro-Communist from some city in Pennsylvania, might have had something to do with OSWALD.

ALCARAZ ARAGON stated that he first met STEVE KENNAN in Mexico City in 1962; later saw him in Mexico City

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COMMISSION EXHIBIT No. 2948