

SA 105-2909

The Alameda Central Park
and Constitution Square

The Alameda Central Park is located in the heart of the Mexico City commercial area between Juarez and Hidalgo Avenues and occupies several square blocks of landscaping of monuments, fountains, plants, shrubs and trees. It is provided with numerous benches for the public and access thereto is not controlled in any fashion whatsoever.

The Constitution Square, located in the center of Mexico City and commonly referred to as the "Zocalo," is several acres of paved area surrounded by the National Palace (Federal Government), the headquarters of the government of the Federal District, the National Cathedral, and one block of business establishments. It is traversed by thousands of persons daily and access thereto is not controlled in any manner.

In view of the foregoing, no effort was made to conduct interviews or display photographs of OSWALD in relation to his presumed interest in those localities.

The Palace of Fine Arts

It was observed that the Palace of Fine Arts, which is located to the east of the Alameda Central Park in Mexico City, is a huge building which, in addition to its main theater area where operas, musicals, ballet performances and symphonies are presented during various seasons, has numerous other halls utilized continuously for recitals, art exhibits, and varied special events. Access to the building is not controlled and it is open to the public at all times; consequently, no effort was made to display photographs of OSWALD or interview persons connected with the enterprises which are housed at the Palace of Fine Arts at the present time.

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, 55 to 56 years of age, 5 ft. 8 in. in height, slender build, fair complexion, and grey 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.



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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.

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

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.

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.