

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. SULLIVAN
FROM : MR. BRANIGAN
SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
 INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
 RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
 IN THIS DOCUMENT.

1 - Mr. Belmont
 10 - Mr. Rosen
 1 - Mr. Sullivan
 1 - Mr. Moore
 1 - Mr. Turner
 1 - Liaison
 1 - Mr. Branigan
 1 - Mr. Stokes

11-29-63

~~SECRET~~

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

*Copy sent CIA
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 Comp # 224,860
 12/28/98
 9/29/88
 12/29/88
 12/29/88*

Nicaragua Mexico

[Gilberto Alvarado, a young Nicaraguan, has alleged that on 9-18-63 he observed Oswald receive \$6,500 in the Cuban Embassy, Mexico City, as part payment to assassinate the President.] [Alvarado has been in protective custody of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Mexico City.] (S)(U)

On 11-26 and 27-63, the American Ambassador in Mexico City, Mann, asked State Department for authority to take several courses of action; namely, to request Mexicans to rearrest Silvia Duran, said to be a witness to the incident; to permit CIA to turn over Alvarado to the Mexicans and to request Mexicans to arrest three individuals, two of whom were Cuban Consular officials at the Cuban Embassy. Acting on their own authority, the Mexicans did rearrest Duran 11-27-63 for reasons not clear to us. (S)(U)

On 11-27-63 Ambassador Mann told our Legal Attache that he had been advised by Alexis Johnson, Department of State, that State and CIA consider Bureau to be in full charge of investigation and expect us to call the shots.

On 11-28-63 our Legal Attache, pursuant to instructions issued by Assistant Director Sullivan, unequivocally advised the Ambassador that the Bureau was not directing the investigation in Mexico and that we considered ourselves to be in full charge of the investigation conducted within the U.S. In discussing this matter with Assistant Director Sullivan, Legal Attache Anderson recommended that the best course of action would be [for CIA] to turn Alvarado over to the Mexicans and request thorough investigation of his charges, including polygraph examination. This course was adopted and the Bureau Liaison representative so recommended to CIA on the afternoon of 11-28-63. [CIA, that date, issued instructions to its staff in Mexico City that Alvarado be released to the Mexicans, polygraphed and thorough investigation be requested.] (S)(U)

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 for review at FBIHQ by
 HSCA re 12/28/98 request.
 (See Ref 1/e #62-117290)

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 105-82555-2418
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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. SULLIVAN
RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

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On the morning of 11-29-63 Assistant Director C. A. Evans briefed Under Secretary of State Alexis Johnson concerning the action taken. He said this was exactly what he had in mind and that he realized it was up to him to issue the necessary instructions to the Ambassador. He pointed out that the specific recommendation made by the Bureau as to the handling of this matter was exactly what he had in mind and he felt it fortunate that the Ambassador was getting our professional help.

Oswald's wife, during interview early this morning, definitely places Oswald in New Orleans on 9-18-63 at time Alvarado stated he was in the Cuban Embassy. She maintains that her husband did not leave New Orleans between time of their arrival there in May, 1963, and her departure from there on 9-24 or 25-63.

(U) CIA confirmed its order to its Mexican staff to release Alvarado by 11-28-63 release in which they stated that the Nicaraguan intelligence service for which Alvarado once worked, is dispatching a senior official to Mexico City to assist in the interrogation and investigation there at our discretion. We now find per Legal Attache's 11-28-63 cable that Alvarado, prior to his release to Mexicans and on reinterrogation has changed his story, claiming that the 9-18-63 date of the incident may be in error and that it may have occurred on 9-28-63. The fact that Oswald was known to be in Mexico in late September and early October, 1963, has been publicized on 11-23-63 in Mexico City papers in connection with Mexican interrogation of Silvia Duran. This fact is undoubtedly known to Alvarado. As Alvarado, in his first account, said that he again saw two of the witnesses to the incident on a repeated visit to the Cuban Embassy 9-26-63, and as his claimed calls to the American Embassy warning of a killing of a prominent person have not been substantiated and finally as his initially stated reason for being in Mexico in September, 1963, [as an agent of the Nicaraguans] has been refuted, it now appears that Alvarado's story is a fabrication. Legal Attache is following through CIA, Mexico City, the handling of interrogation of Alvarado and investigation incidental thereto, including a possible confrontation of Alvarado and Duran. (S)(u)

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. SULLIVAN
RE LEE HARVEY OSWALD

RECOMMENDATION:

That Legal Attache, Mexico City, be advised of the dispatch of representative of Nicaraguan intelligence service to Mexico City to assist in interrogation and investigation and that he be told that if approached for recommendation as to advisability of this action, he is authorized to recommend a course of action that he believes will most likely get to the truth of this situation. ~~(S)~~(u) sent @

Attached for approval is cablegram to Legal Attache, Mexico City, also briefing him on recent developments touching on this situation.

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