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XAX - 664 Q-9813 18 September 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, DD/P/CI Staff

ATTENTION

: CI/REA/TC

SUBJECT

: Handwriting Identification (22, 028-X)

REFERENCE

: Request Memo, 16 September 1964

- 1. Reference forwarded (1) a poor quality reduced size photograph of a Cuban Visa Application in the name of Lee H. Oswald with a handwritten notation in the lower left corner that appears to read "Hotel del Cameron(?)/Room 18 46-60-51(?)", (2) enlarged photograph, unknown size, of signature "S. de Duran", and (3) Xerox copy of Volume 3 of the exhibits in the "Investigation of Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, November 22, 1963", containing handwriting specimens of Lee Harvey Oswald. It was requested that an effort be made to determine if Silvia Duran or Lee H. Oswald wrote the notation in the lower left corner of the visa application.
- 2. There are several obstacles, or deficiencies in evidence, which preclude reaching an un-qualified opinion in this matter, such as the extreme poor quality of the reduced size (estimated to be about .3X to 55X) photograph of the visa application as opposed to the enlarged Duran signature, and the absence of comparable letters in the two writings.
- 3. Nevertheless, careful examination and comparison of all of the writing leads to the following opinion: There is enough similarity between the writing in the eignature "S. de Duran" and the questioned notation on the visa application to make it appear probable that Duran placed the notation on the application. Or, stating it another way: I would not eliminate her as a suspect writer of the notation. Examination of the original documents might remove these qualifications.
- 4. I do not find enough similarity between Oswald's writing and the questioned notation to warrant a suspicion that he is the author.

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- 5. In another report dated 9 September 1964 (G-9795, 21,947-X) Oswald was identified as the author of the signature "Lee H. Oswald" on the application.
- 6. All of the documents were returned to you direct per your request.

Lon-H. Thomas TSD/GARB/QDS

Distribution:

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