On October 5, 1964, eleven days after the publication of the Warren Commission Report, a story alleging that Henry O. Gardner gave a dinner party in Mexico City attended by Cuban government personnel came to the attention of the Central Intelligence Agency. (C.W. 73406, p. 94, C.I.A. # 701; ibid., Mem. dated 10/5/64, C.I.A. # 576.) An allegation of this type, if true, could negate the Warren Commission's conclusion that the Kennedy assassination was the work of a lone assassin F. J. Kennedy.

Internal Story As Reported October 5, 1964

Dr. Delia Acosta de Balam, first cousin of Otto, Elia and Eloy. Balam were invited to a formal party at the home of Robert Dumas in the middle of the week in the fall of 1963. Lee Harvey Oswald was alleged to have been at the party in the company of "two other Cubanlooking boys." (ibid.) The Americans remained together the entire evening and did not dance. When Elia took to the dance floor with the Americans, he was "shoved" to another room by one of the men. [The men] were not the same Cuban men who his Excellency had mentioned which caused him to make the trip to the United States.] One of Elia's cousins told her at the time that (she did) not know who the Americans were except that Robert Balam, Elia's wife and "father" Dumas), had brought them to the party.

The day after the party, Dr. Delia Acosta de Balam and Robert saw the three Americans on the streets in Mexico City. The men's claim that they had recognized Oswald's photograph when it was published after the assassination held no weight. Elia's "father" Dumas's account "underlined their proximity" that the man had been the Henry Oswald. (ibid.)

Dr. added that Elia was not one of the Dallas brothers had made trips to Texas. She added that, even though
Elena Garro de Paz, born of Spanish parents in Puebla, Mexico on December 11, 1917, attended the National Autonomous University of Mexico and later did graduate work at Berkeley in California and at the University of Paris. In 1963, Elena had long been married to Octavio Paz, a career diplomat who is also one of Mexico's finest poets and leading intellectuals. When Octavio was named Mexican Ambassador to India, the couple separated by mutual consent. Elena's daughter, also named Elena, has always resided with her mother.

Since Elena spent seventeen years of her early life in Europe she had a rather un-Mexican objectivity about her native land and had a reputation for being one if its more articulate detractors. At the same time, Elena was considered emotionally committed to many aspects of Mexican life and made an important contribution to its artistic development.

In the 1960's Elena became a significant writer. Nogar Solido, El Rey Mago, La Señora en su Balcon, Ventura Allende, Andaise por las Ramas, Parada Empresa, and El Viaje are plays that have had appreciative audiences in Europe, where they were translated into German, as well as in Mexico. Ms. Garro's short stories are collected in a volume called La Semana de Colores. The Literacy Supplement of the London Times has called her novel, Los Recuerdos de Porvenir, "a
splendid success." Critics have said of her: "For Elena Garro, there is no frontier between reality and fantasy; in any case, the latter is a second reality--perhaps more intense--to which one may penetrate without passport or forewarning, thanks to the effectiveness of a literature fired with passion, flavor and life." Many people who knew Elena have asserted that the frontier between reality and fantasy is also difficult for her to distinguish in real life. [Biography data from prepared by Charles Thomas]

Ms. Garro, for many years, was an active worker in the Confederacion Nacional Campesina (CNC), the agrarian arm of the Partido Reformista (PRI). Because Ms. Garro was a tireless propagandist and agitator on behalf of the poorer Mexican peasants, she was on close personal terms with and enjoyed the respect of peasant leaders from all over the country. (Inc)

Elena was considered a witty, urbane and opinionated woman with an unflagging sense of humor. Her forthright opinions and sharp wit tended on occasion to ruffle feathers in Mexico, but her important social, literacy, and political connections rendered her fairly immune from serious counter-attack until 1968. Then, Ms. Garro was forced to flee the country with her daughter, Elenita and her sister, Deba Guerrero de Galvan, in the midst of the student strikes. The House Select Committee on Assassinations has been unable to determine the exact reason Ms. Garro had in fleeing Mexico.
Before her disappearance from Mexico, Elena was well disposed toward the United States and had been friendly with Embassy officers. Her broad range of significant personal friends, the views of many important to the American Embassy, made her a useful Embassy target. Throughout the early 1960's she was carried as a target in the Embassy's Youth Program.

American Embassy employees dealing with Elena believed that despite her access to the underground happenings in Mexico, including peasant unrest, since she had a tendency to romanticize developments in reporting on them made it difficult at times to determine what degree of credence to place on what might truly be useful and concrete information.

[A "useful Embassy target" is a person deemed important because involved enough by American Embassy officials to merit frequent contact, either written or unwritten, with American Embassy officials.]
October 13, 1964. CIA Memo for the Record:

On 10/13/64, the Chief of Counter Intell. asked me to write a memo for the record regarding:

Cecilia Barron de Paz had told her story to Elena Odio.

The Committee has not been able to determine if Cecilia Odio related to her story of being told by Elena Odio generally or if she called the FBI in. Odio was a friend of Elena Odio, and she related to me that she was "told" by Elena Odio, and that she would be protecting her source. She has not been able to establish a link from her to the Odios.

On 10/13/64, [10/14/64 memo, CIA #596, W.K.724, P.87, CIA #714]

The story is not as detailed as the 10/5/64 version.

There is no mention of Deba Garro Guerrero Galvan. The story, perhaps because it is third hand, differs from the previous story in two areas: The party was at the Cuban Embassy, not at Ruben Duran's; Elena talked to a Cuban Embassy official, not one of her cousins about the three Americans.

Attached to the memo was a note from the Chief of Station, Winston Black, which read:

"Do you want me to send the story to the Agency?"

I replied, "Yes, but we should follow up first."

Then added, "Nothing further." Both then noted that the memo should be filed. The file includes the story that this memo went into the Oswald "P" file and the CIAcade "P" file (ibid)."
November 24, 1964 CIA Informant Report

One November 24, 1964, a Central Intelligence Agency
informant [The House Select Committee has been unable
to determine the informant's identity] reported information
[Redacted from: A report to the House, 25 June 1975, p. 42, C.I.A. Doc. 757] he had learned from

[Redacted from: While reviewing

file the Committee determined that the CIA

and the true name was [Aramis Calvillo]. The day following
the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Calvillo visited his
and her daughter at the Ambassador Hotel for protection. See also
December 25, 1964, memo for more information on [Aramis Calvillo].

The informant asserted that Jack Cott was an "American
Communist" who acted as a courier for Cuban Isaac Blanco
from Havana, Cuba, to the fall of 1964. Cott, C.I.A.
Nos. 522-523, H.R. 7214, p. 22, Cott #24 4/11/65. The informant
also stated that Cott had to thank the Soviet Embassy when
he was in Havana because she had paid Oswald "more than
due" (caliente) at a party at Kniep's Cuban's house (26th).

In addition, the informant claimed that Cott also told his
story to an American official at the Embassy, who claimed
to represent the Warren Commission (26). The Chief of Station
noted that he had noted the informant to receive the
story (26), but there is no indication that

ever complained with the report [H.I.A.C. Report p. 89. Secret]
CIA Document]
Elena was questioned regarding the identity of other persons attending the party at the Ruben Duran home who might have been in a position to observe the three Americans.

Elena stated that in the course of the party her daughter met a young man named "Alejandro" at the party and danced with him. He was apparently quite smitten with the daughter and tried to call her on several occasions after the party. The daughter did not take the calls and as a result "Alejandro" wrote several letters to the daughter. Ms. Garro exhibited two of the letters, as well as a business card which identified the young man as Ario Alejandro Lavagnini Stenius. (IBID)
The letter which Ms. Garro said was the first written by the young man to her daughter bore the date September 1, 1963 and the Mexico City Post Office postmark September 2, 1963. When Ms. Garro was told this she commented that probably the Communists have facilities for falsifying postcards. (IBID)

To further investigate Ms. Garro's story, the Federal Bureau interviewed Ario Alejandro Lavagnini Stenius on November 27, 1964. (IBID) Lavagnini recalled that there were approximately thirty people at the Ruban Duran party, few of whom he knew. He recalled having met a Mexican girl who had recently returned from living in France. He was unable to fix the date of the party, but felt it was probably early in September because of a heavy rain which occurred as they were leaving the party about 2:00 a.m.

(IBID. p. 4)

Lavagnini noted no Americans present at this party. He was familiar with the appearance of Lee Harvey Oswald because of publicity following the assassination of President Kennedy but otherwise had no knowledge of him and had never seen him except for news photographs following the assassination. (IBID. p. 4) [Lavagnini was the only person that actually gat the Spanish movie in the September-October time frame.]

There is no indication on the document that this information was given to the Central Intelligence Agency's Mexico City Station.
On 12/10/65 Charles Thomas, a political officer at the American Embassy, wrote a memorandum about a conversation with Elena Garro de Paz. (CIA #586-587, WX-7241 Entry No. 425, p. 91, CIA No. 718.) The meeting with Elena had been about other matters but she mentioned knowing Oswald. Thomas noted that she was reluctant to talk but did. (bid)

Elena's story reported here is the same, but with more details, as that given in the [Memo. She said that General Clark Flores, Silvia Duran, Eusebio Azcue, Emilio Carballido, and a Latin American Negro man with red hair were at the party. A marginal comment by this entry in WX-7241 says, "How did Elena know about a red-haired Negro?" Elena also told Thomas that she had later learned that Silvia Duran had been "Oswald's mistress while he was there." (A note by this entry in WX-7241 says "How did Elena Garro know about Silvia being the mistress of Oswald?? This is 1965.) She [Memo. She did not hear about the Oswald-Duran "affair" until July 1967 when [a CIA Asset owing/13] reported it. After reviewing [CIA #1461/13] file at the CIA, the House Select Committee on Assassinations has been unable to determine that [CIA #1461/13] was associated with that had knowledge about Sylvia Duran in the Harvey Oswald.

Elena told Thomas that she and her daughter had gone to the Cuban Embassy on November 1963, and the gates they shouted "assassin" and other insults at the Embassy employees. Shortly after this incident a friend, Manuel Calvillo, an official in the Gobernacion, took her and her daughter to a small hotel in the center
of Mexico City. They were kept there for eight days under the pretext that they were in danger. Elena claimed to have told Calvillo that she wanted to tell her story to the American Embassy. Calvillo dissuaded her by telling her that the American Embassy was full of Communist spies. Elena said that some of the other people who had been at the party were taken to Veracruz where they were "protected" by Governor Lopez Arias. [The House Select Committee was unable to determine the validity of this allegation.] She said that Ruben Duran, reportedly "protected" by General Clark Flores, was very prosperous and was driving a big car. [CIA # 586-587, 03-27-64, Entry 545, p. 41, CIA-M 378]

Elena also claimed that Ruben Duran told her months after the assassination that he was not really a Communist and that Kennedy had been a mistake. [Cited: The House Select Committee on Assassinations has not been able to determine whether Ruben actually told Elena about the assassination. Ruben Duran claims he had no reason to.]

The COS wrote a note on the memo which says: "What an imagination she has! Should we send to Headquarters?" The Officer replied, "Suggest sending. There have been stories around town about all this, and Thomas is not only person she has talked to... If memory serves me, didn't [LICOOKIE] refer to Oswald and the local leftists and Cubans in one of her squibs?" (CIA No. 588, note from SW to COS.)
The cable said that Elena's story would be checked with [the Cuban surveillance operation] "and other sources." (IBID.) Scott wrote, next to the routing indications on the cable, "Please ask Charles Thomas if he'll "follow-up". Get questions from Anne G. Please let's discuss. Thanks."

After the December 10 memorandum conversations, Winston Scott (Chief/Station) and Nathan Ferris (Legal Attache) called C. Thomas for a meeting. They asked him to get a more detailed replay of Ms. Garro's story. At this meeting Winston Scott made it clear that the FBI had full responsibility for any further investigation in the Oswald case. (State Dept: letter from Charles Thomas to William P. Rogers, July 25, 1969, JFK Doc. #)
Charles Thomas Meeting with Elena Garro on December 25, 1965

Thomas met with Elena again on December 25, 1965. The same date he wrote a memorandum of conversation which provided a much more detailed and extensive restatement of Ms. Garro's alleged encounter with Lee Harvey Oswald and subsequent developments. (CIA Nos. 580-583; WX-7241, Entry #427, p. 92, CIA #719)

Elena admitted that she had spoken to two men at the Embassy "(presumably from the Legal Attache's Office)." (Ibid; The meeting occurred on Nov. 24, 1964) She said that she did not tell them the whole story because "the Embassy officers did not give much credence to anything she and Elena said." (Ibid CIA Nos. 580-583; WX-7241, Entry #427, p. 92, CIA #719)

She stated that the party had been at Ruben Duran's home. She was unclear about the date of the party. It was a few days before the Soviet Astronaut, Gagarin, visited Mexico; she thought that this would put the party around September 2 or 3, 1963. (Ibid) She believed that the party was on a Monday or Tuesday because it was an odd night for a party. She noted that September 2 and 3 were indeed Monday and Tuesday. Elena could not check her calender to refresh her memory at the time of the interview because the calender was in a desk that had been stored away. (Ibid)
During the conversation Elena described Oswald and his companions. The man who she thought was Oswald wore a black sweater. She said he was quiet "and stared a lot at the floor." One of his companions "was very tall and slender and had long blond hair which hung across his forehead." He had a gaunt face and a rather long protruding chin. The other companion was also tall, with short, light brown hair and no particularly distinguishing characteristics. The three Americans did not dance or mix with the other guests. Elena saw the same three men on the street the next day. (IBID.)

Elena was certain that Eusebio Azcue, Horacio Duran, Silvia Duran, Lydia Duran, Deba Guerrero, General Clark Flores and his mistress, a doctor from Dalinde Hospital,
a young American couple who were honeymooning in Mexico, and several other people were at the party. She said that Ricardo Guerra, whom she claims converted Horatio Duran to Communism, and his wife, Rosario Castellanos, were supposed to be at the party but did not attend.

(IBID.) alleged that

The red-haired man and Emilio Carballido were not at the party that Oswald attended but at another party where Carballido and Azcue got into a heated argument about President Kennedy. "They came to the conclusion that the only solution was to kill him." (IBID.) Elena was not clear on whether this party was before or after the party where she met Oswald. (IBID.) The House Select Committee has been unable to confirm this conversation. Elena has stated that it did not occur.

Elena said that Carballido is "a known Castro agent in Mexico." (ibid) After the assassination he spent a year in Cuba. He then got a job teaching at Rutgers University through Dr. Jose Vasquez Amaral. (ibid). The House Select Committee has reported that "Elena reiterated that she saw..." The incident at the Cuban Embassy, where Elena and her daughter shouted "assassins", etc., at the Embassy employees, occurred on November 23rd at or about 3:00 p.m. Elena and Elenita were driven to the Cuban Embassy by Elena's brother who was embarrassed by their behavior. (ibid)

This occurred before they had seen photographs of Oswald. (ibid)

Later, the day they were visited by Manuel Calvillo who told them that they were in serious danger from the Communists and that he would take them to a small hotel,
where they would be safe, for a few days. Elena said she trusted and believed Calvillo because he was a known undercover agent for the Government. He was also a friend of Noe Palomares and Gustavo Diaz Ordaz. Calvillo also told Elena and her daughter that Silvia Duran had been arrested. Duran's arrest was not public information at the time.

Elena could not remember the name of the hotel so she took Thomas to the section of Mexico City where she thought it was. They found the hotel. It was the Vermont Hotel, Calle Vermont 29. Elena said that she assumed that Calvillo had registered them as relatives or friends. They stayed at the hotel until the following Friday, Nov. 30, 1963 hardly leaving their rooms. While they were at the hotel they saw the photos of Oswald and realized that he had been the man at Ruben Duran's party. When Calvillo visited them at the hotel Elena told him that she wanted to report it to the American Embassy, Calvillo dissuaded her by stating that the American Embassy was full of Communists. When Elena returned to her home, guards were posted outside.

After she returned home, Elena saw her sister, Deba Guerrero, who independently of Elena. Deba was "terrified." Approximately
two months after the assassination two "communists" had personally warned Deba and threatened her never to reveal that she had been to a party with Oswald. Deba, consequently, would not accompany Elena to the American Embassy to tell her story on Nov. 24, 1963. (161)

Elena said that a few days after the assassination Emilio Carballido took the Duran's to Jalapa, Veracruz and "kept them out of the way until the initial shock of the assassination wore off." The House Select Committee has been unable to confirm Ms. Carballido's allegation.

Elena also said that shortly after the assassination an American named June Cobb spent several days in her house. Ms. Cobb had been sent to Elena by a mutual friend, Eunice Odio. Eunice Odio was a Communist who had beenzano's mistress when Amadei was with the Rockefeller Foundation. In late 1961, Ms. Cobb and Ms. Odio were together.

While Ms. Cobb was at Elena's house she expressed an interest in the Kennedy assassination. Deba got drunk one night and told Ms. Cobb the entire story. Ms. Cobb wanted them to go to the American authorities. Claiming to be a CIA agent, Cobb advised against going to the American Embassy. She suggested that Elena and Deba go to Texas to tell their story. When her suggestion was rejected, Cobb said that she would arrange a meeting with the CIA Station Chief.

The meeting did not occur because Ms. Cobb was asked to
leave the Garro house; evidently because she kicked
Elena's cat. [ed.] The House Select Committee on Assassinations has determined
that June Cole Sharp was a CIA asset in 1964. [supra p. 2]

Elena claimed that Ruben Duran visited Elena around the end of
January, 1964. He was worried that Oswald's visit to
his home might be discovered and that he might lose
his Mexican citizenship. [ed.] Ruben told Elena that it had
been Silvia who had gotten him involved with Oswald. [ed.]
Ruben added that he was not really a communist and
had opposed the assassination. [ed.] Elena denied the story. [ed.]
Elena said that she had told her story to Noe Palomares of the Gobernacion about six months after the
assassination. [ed.] He advised against going to the American
Embassy and told her that if she did anything at all
she should merely write an anonymous letter. [ed.] The Committee spoke
to Mr. Palomares who said denied Ms. Duran's claim. [ed.]
Elena stated that it was "common knowledge"
that Silvia had been Oswald's mistress. When asked who
could verify the allegation she could only remember one
person who had told her this. That person was Victor
Rico Galan, a "pro-Castro journalist." [ed.] Rico Galan is dead.
The Committee could not verify Ms. Galan's allegation.

During these conversations Elena also said that
she "understood" that Oswald had been in Mexico more
than once. [ed.]
Subsequent to December 25, 1965, Thomas wrote in the Dec. 25, 1965 memo that Elena had found her calendar and had reconstructed the date of the party as late September not early September. When Thomas went to Ferris' office and informed him, Ferris replied that Elena had given the late September date when she had originally reported her story at the American Embassy. However, Mr. Ferris explained that someone who had been at the party had stated that there were no Americans there. Mr. Ferris did not reveal that Ario Alejandro Lavagnini Stenius Ferris had provided this information.

Mr. Ferris suggested that it was not necessary for Thomas to pursue the matter since he considered the Oswald case closed and had heard all the rumors before.
On December 27, 1965 the Legal Attaché wrote a memo to the Ambassador regarding Elena. [Memo to the Ambassador from the Legal Attaché, 12/27/65, CIA #578; WX-7241 Entry #428, p. 94, CIA #721.] This is one of the memos the Legal Attaché refers to in the Sept. 30, 1969 report that Elena and her daughter were interviewed on 17 and 24 November 1964. The memo said that they furnished information similar to that in Thomas' 12/10/65 memo. The Legal Attaché went on to say: "Inquiries conducted at that time, (November '64) however, failed to substantiate the allegations made by Mrs. Garro de Paz and her daughter. In view of the fact that Mrs. Garro de Paz' allegations have been previously checked out without substantiation, no further action is being taken concerning her recent repetition of those allegations." (IBID.)
The next entry in Oswald's Mexican file is a cable written by Ann Goodpasture, [Memo from Mexico City to the Director, 12/29/65, Mexi 5741, CIA #575; WX-7241 Entry #430, p. 94, CIA #721]. The cable reports the Legat interview and the failure to substantiate Elena’s story. The cable promises to keep Headquarters advised if any further information is developed. (IBID.)

10/5/64 memo is attached to this cable. WX-7241 explains this in a marginal comment, "This document was not in (Oswald's file), but was copied from (a project file) and attached to Mexi 5741, 29 Dec. 65." (IBID.)

A note attached to this cable by [Allen White] stated, "I don't know what FBI did in Nov 64, but the Garro's have been talking about this for a long time and she is said to be extremely bright." Ann Goodpasture wrote that the FBI had found Elena's allegations unsubstantiated but that "we will try to confirm or refute Mrs. Garro de Paz's information and follow up." Win Scott wrote, "She is also 'nuts'." (IBID; CIA #574)
CIA INVESTIGATION OF ELENA ALLEGATION

that she created a disturbance at
The Cuban Embassy on November 23, 1963.

On February 3, 1966 Anne Goodpasture sent Thomas' December 15, 1945
memo to the Cuban section with an attached note asking
them to check whether Elena was "seen creating such a
disturbance as they claimed in front of the Cuban
Embassy." (Note from Ann Goodpasture to "Cubans",
2/3/66, CIA No. 579; WX-7241, Entry 428, p. 94, CIA #721.)

One Cuban section officer responded, "No bells
ring with me." Another one wrote "Me neither." The
third officer wrote "No pictures either." (IBID.) There
is no indication that the penetration agents in the Cuban
Embassy were queried about this. (IBID,?) That there are
no pictures is reasonable since Elena claimed that the
event happened: 1.) on a Saturday at 3:00 p.m. when
the Cuban Embassy was not normally photographically
surveilled; and 2.) the "disturbance" occurred inside the
Cuban compound. HSCA Examination of the CIA Cuban Embassy
photographic surveillance showed no surveillance on 11/23/63.
(Classified Summary of Staff Review of CIA Documents,
undated, P. 3, CIA #763.)
On 2/23/66 the Legal Attache wrote a memo to the Ambassador regarding the Gar ros allegations. ([Memo from Legat to Ambassador, 2/23/66, CIA #571; WX-7241 Entry #455, p. 95, CIA #722.) This memo reports that "extensive investigation" failed to disclose that Oswald had traveled to Mexico prior to September 26, 1963 and that no information had developed that would show that he had not been in New Orleans in the early part of that month. The memo repeated that no further action was being taken by the FBI because her allegations had not been substantiated. (IBID)

The Legal Attache forwarded a copy to the Central Intelligence Agency's Mexico City Station. [The House Select Committee on Assassinations has been unable to determine when the copy was forwarded to the CIA.]

A marginal comment by this entry in WX-7241 says, "How can it be ascertained that Oswald did not travel to Mexico prior to early Sept. 63? There must be some basis for Elena's reporting." (IBID; referenced to Thomas' 12/25/65 memo.)
On 7/13/66 Charles Thomas wrote a memorandum reporting that Clark had told him that she had received an invitation to visit Cuba from Ambassador Jorge Turcios. [Memorandum of Conversation by Charles Thomas, 7/13/66, CIA #565, W: 7/24/66, Entry 460, p. 99, CIA #723] Clark gave Thomas two letters to support the claim, one of which was a letter from the Cuban Embassy. (clrd) The envelope gave her address as Vermont 38. (clrd) Because of her stay at the hotel, Vermont, she sent the letter as a threat and was registered. (clrd) [The HSCA has determined that the Cuban government invited Clark to visit Cuba due to her quiet literary talents; see Biography]
On 10/13/66 the Legal Attache wrote a memo to the CIA/COS reporting that a reliable confidential informant had reported that the records of the Hotel Vermont disclosed that "Elena Paz, housewife from San Luis Potosi" had registered at the Hotel Vermont on November 23, 1963. She left on November 30, 1963. The memo said that "the above individual may or may not be identical with Elena Garro de Paz." (Memo from Legat to Winston Scott, 10/13/66, CIA No. 564; WX-7241, Entry #466, p. 98, CIA #725; Thomas' 7/13/66 memo.) (The House Select Committee on Assassinations has been unable to determine why the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation waited until 1966 to investigate this area of Mexico's story.)

Charles Thomas' 12/25/65 memo said, "She (Elena) and her daughter did not personally register at the hotel. She thinks Calvillo registered them as relatives or friends of his from San Luis Postosi." (Memo of Conversation by Charles Thomas, 12/25/65, p. 3, CIA #582.)

The entry for the 10/13/66 Legat memo in WX-7241 bore the notation "This is what Elena claimed and no one would believe her." (WX-7241, Entry #466, p. 98, CIA #725.)
No further reports on Elena's story were generated until 1969 when Charles Thomas was "selected out." ("Selected out" is a phrase used when an officer is retired after having been in one grade for the maximum period of time and is not considered qualified for promotion to a higher grade). Then, he wrote a letter and memorandum to the Secretary of State saying, "Since I was the Embassy Officer in Mexico who acquired this intelligence information, I feel a responsibility for seeing it through to its final evaluation." (State Dept.: Letter from Charles Thomas to William Rogers, Secretary of State, July 25, 1969).
The Mexican City's Office, in reply to Thomas' letter and memorandum, asserted that Thomas' office had been advised by another's memorandum dated December 29, 1965 and February 23, 1966 that since — Clara's allegations had apparently been investigated without substantiation, no further action was being taken concerning her recent resignation of these allegations. [Footnote, p. 66, p. 826, 826] 7
In their report, the Inverage Office concluded that neither the Censorial for Political Affairs did not route the memorandum to Charles Thomas or that Thomas did not recall receiving them.

(8:18)

Thomas wrote that when he went to Charles' office, she informed him that Clara had found her calendar and had reconstructed the date of the party as late September. Thomas noted that Clara had given the late September date when she had originally reported her story at the American Embassy. (8:18, Departmental Letter from Charles Thomas to William Rogers, Secretary of State, July 23, 1967) Thomas noted that Thomas explained that person who had been at the party had stated that there had not been any American. Thomas alleged that Thomas suggested that it was not necessary for Thomas to pursue the matter since he considered the Censorial case closed and had heard all the person before. (8:18)

[The Inverage Office] replied that Mr. Thomas had not told Thomas that someone who was at the party had stated that there had not been any American. C.P.B. Report, 1961, p. 14, p. 14. Mr. Thomas' report stated that Thomas had been told that it would not be necessary for him to pursue the matter any further since Clara's story had been investigated.
without being substantiated. In addition, the memo stated that
Thomas had been told that Claro's story was considered a
closed issue not that the case was closed. (End)
House Select Committee on Assassination
Investigation of Elena Garro's Allegations

The House Select Committee on Assassinations investigated Elena Garro's story both through file reviews and personal interviews. The Committee requested and reviewed the CIA's, FBI's and State Department Files, when they existed, on Elena Garro de Paz, Elenita Garro de Paz, Manuel Calvillo, Noe W. Palomares, June Cobb Sharp, Victor Rico Galan, Eunice Odio, Sylvia Duran, Lydia Duran, Ruben Duran, Betty Serratos, Horatio Duran, Eusebio Azcue, and Emilio Carballido. Only the Elena Garro de Paz file contained information on her allegations. Though all the names listed above played a role in Elena Garro de Paz' story, not one of their files included a reference to Elena Garro de Paz.

Furthermore, the House Select Committee on Assassinations requested and reviewed the Central Intelligence Agency's [ ] and [ ] files. Once again not one of the files included a mention of Elena Garro's allegations. The House Select Committee on Assassinations learned that [ ] was June Cobb Sharp who first reported Elena's allegation. (Supra p. 4)
The Committee also learned that [ ] was Manuel Calvillo who hid Elena Garro and her daughter in a hotel the day
following the assassination. (Supra p. 13) He also told Elena that Sylvia Duran had been arrested before it was public knowledge.\(^n\)

Since a file review lead nowhere, the Committee decided to arrange interviews in Mexico with Sylvia Duran, Elena Garro, Elenita Garro, Horacio Duran, Ruben Duran, Lynn Duran, Emilio Carballido and Betty Serratos. The Mexican Government informed us that Elena and Elenita Garro had disappeared in 1968 during the student uprisings and had never returned to Mexico. The officials stated that Elena and her daughter might be in Spain. (See Mexico City Procedural Write-up Trip 1.) Emilio Carballido could not be found. The others were interviewed between June 1 and June 6, 1978.\(^{14,15}\)

Betty Serratos, Lydia Duran, Ruben Duran, and Horatio Duran all stated that Elena was not the dancing type and therefore did not attend any of the twist parties at the Duran homes. (See: HSCA Staff Interview of Betty Serratos, 6/6/78, p. 6, JFK Document No. ; HSCA Staff Interview of Lydia Duran, 6/5/78, p. 6, JFK Document No. ; HSCA Staff Interview of Ruben Duran-Návarro, 6/6/78, p. 16, JFK Document No. ; HSCA Staff Interview of Horatio Duran Navarro, 6/5/78, p. 25, JFK Document No. )

When Sylvia Duran was asked if Elena or Elenita Garro
ever attended twist parties at the Duran homes, she stated that she recalled Elena attending one twist party at Ruben's home in 1963 when she returned to Mexico from France. (HSCA Staff Interview of Sylvia Triado Bazan, 6/6/70, p. 90, JFK, Document No. ) All the Durans denied that Lee Harvey Oswald had attended any party at one of their homes.

The Committee next asked the Central Intelligence Agency to provide for interviews of Manuel Calvillo, [June Cobb], along with a list of other assets that might help clear Lee Harvey Oswald's trip to Mexico City.

The Agency declined to aid the Committee in its investigation.
The Mexican government told the Committee that June Cobb Sharp received a tourist permit, number 72781, on June 27, 1947 when she entered Mexico through Nuevo Laredo. She asked, but was denied, permission to represent the magazine, Modern Mexico.

On June 21, 1948, she received a courtesy permit, number 25556. She disappeared in 1954 and never returned to Mexico. (See Procedural Writeup Trip 2 Mexico City). The Committee knows the information is incorrect. June Cobb was also in Mexico from 1959 through 1966. (CIA)

According to Ms. Cobb's CIA file she worked for the agency as an analyst from 1945 through 1966. (CIA, Report 1945-1966, June Cobb file, 201-)

The Mexican government told the Committee that Manuel Calvillo did not live at Cuautemoc 877-5 as the Committee had stated. Their agent in charge had spoken to the superintendent at the apartments for the past twenty-five years who said that no Manuel Calvillo had ever resided there. When Committee staffers gave the Mexican government Calvillo's pen name, the Mexicans gave the same answers. (See Procedural Write Mexico City Trip 2) The Committee is quite certain that Mr. Calvillo lives at this address since it acquired the address from a recent CIA document. (CIA Report 1945, Manuel Calvillo fl.14, 201)