

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-10173-10006

RECORD SERIES : HQ

AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 105-82555-2235

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : DOS
FROM : MX
TO : SECRETARY OF STATE

TITLE :

DATE : 12/03/1963
PAGES : 2

SUBJECTS :
LIAISON WITH US EMBASSY IN MX

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Secret
RESTRICTIONS : 1B
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 12/10/1997

OPENING CRITERIA : APPROVAL OF CIA

COMMENTS :

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT *By [unclear]*
301-11/1/93
KP 2/10/97

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

CONTROL: 15 50
REC D: DECEMBER 3, 1963, 2:39 P.M.

INRD

FROM: MEXICO CITY
TO: SECRETARY OF STATE

1226, DECEMBER 3, NOON

PRIORITY

SECRET

ROGER CHANNEL

FOR ALEXIS JOHNSON

11/20/92 4903 [unclear]
Declassified by [unclear]
Declassify on: OADR
Per State letter dtd 2-21-84
6454 State Dept info declassified
11/4/93
Special Handling

DURING EVENING DECEMBER 2 NICARAGUAN OFFICIAL [redacted] WAS (S)
PERMITTED BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES TO SEE AND TALK WITH ALVARADO
FOR THE FIRST TIME. CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE IN PRESENCE OF TWO
MEXICAN POLICE OFFICERS. [redacted] SAYS THAT ALVARADO WENT BACK (S)
TO HIS ORIGINAL STORY OF HAVING WITNESSED PAY-OFF TO OSWALD
IN CUBAN CONSULATE HERE. ALVARADO CLAIMS HIS STATEMENT TO
MEXICAN AUTHORITIES WAS MADE UNDER DURESS AFTER FORTY-EIGHT HOURS
OF CONTINUOUS INTERROGATION; HE ALSO CLAIMS MEXICAN OFFICERS
THREATENED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IF HE DID NOT SIGN STATEMENT.

EARLIER ON DECEMBER 2 MEXICAN POLICE HAD TURNED ALVARADO OVER
TO MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES. IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES HAVE
AGREED WITH [redacted] THAT ALVARADO WILL BE RETURNED TO NICARAGUA
TONIGHT OR TOMORROW, ACCOMPANIED BY [redacted] (S)

ALTHOUGH MEXICANS CLAIM THAT ALVARADO WAS TREATED "GENTLY," SINCE
NO US OFFICIAL WAS PRESENT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER THERE
IS BASIS FOR ALVARADO'S CLAIM OF DURESS.

AS REPORTED EARLIER ALVARADO'S STORY IMPRESSED US HERE BECAUSE OF
WEALTH OF DETAIL. I DID NOT IN THE BEGINNING KNOW THAT ALVARADO
HAD DEFINITELY FIXED DATE OF PASSAGE OF MONEY TO OSWALD AS
SEPTEMBER 18 AND WAS ASSUMING THAT ALVARADO'S STORY WAS CONSISTENT
WITH OUR DATA ON OSWALD'S ENTRY IN AND EXIT FROM MEXICO. AFTER
WE LEARNED ALVARADO HAD PINPOINTED SEPTEMBER 18 WE AT FIRST ONLY
KNEW THAT THE FBI HAD DEFINITELY PLACED OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS
ON SEPTEMBER 17. STILL LATER WE WERE INFORMED BY KEENAN OF
WASHINGTON THAT OSWALD HAD WITHDRAWN BOOKS FROM NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC

(JFK) 12/1/97
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/1/97 BY 5668 SLD/oc
(CIA INFO CLASSIFIED PER KP 2/10/97)
(STATE DEPT INFO DECLASSIFIED NOV 14/93)

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173-10006

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-2- 1226, DECEMBER 3, NOON FROM MEXICO CITY.

LIBRARY ON SEPTEMBER 19. SINCE ALVARADO ALLEGEDLY STUCK TO THE SEPTEMBER 18 DATE DURING MEXICAN INTERROGATION UP TO THE TIME HE CHANGED HIS STORY AND SINCE WE CANNOT PLACE OSWALD ON EASTERN AIRLINES FLIGHT FROM AND TO NEW ORLEANS BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 17 AND 19 THERE IS ONE APPARENT FLAW IN ALVARADO'S STORY.

A SECOND APPARENT FLAW, ALREADY MENTIONED, IS ALVARADO'S INSISTENCE THAT HE TELEPHONED AMERICAN EMBASSY FOUR TIMES ON SEPTEMBER 20 AND DAYS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING. ACCORDING TO ALVARADO CURRENTLY CLAIMS HE MADE FOUR TELEPHONE CALLS TO EMBASSY EXTENSION 181 USING NAME OF JORGE KYNAUT (PHONETIC), AND WAS EACH TIME REBUFFED BY A "WOMAN." THIS IS THE NUMBER OF THE EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICER TO WHICH ALVARADO WAS REFERRED WHEN HE TELEPHONED THE EMBASSY ON NOVEMBER 25. HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN THE TEXTENSION NUMBER FROM THE NOVEMBER 25 CALL. WE ARE CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THIS FACET BUT EARLIER, MORE GENERAL INQUIRY PRODUCED NEGATIVE RESULTS.

NEVERTHELESS THERE IS SUFFICIENT POSSIBILITY OF TRUTH IN THE PART OF ALVARADO'S STORY ABOUT HAVING SEEN MONEY PASSED TO OSWALD TO

WARRANT CONTINUED INVESTIGATION OF ALVARADO EITHER IN THE US OR IN NICARAGUA. [REDACTED] SAYS THAT NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT IS AGREEABLE TO ALVARADO'S INTERROGATION IN NICARAGUA BY US OFFICIALS. I THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT FBI AND CIA CONSIDER SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO MANAGUA FOR INTERROGATION PURPOSES. PERHAPS A POLYGRAPH EXPERT SHOULD ALSO BE SENT.

GP-1

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