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Appendix I: HSCA Procedural Write-up Cuba Trip 1

Select Committee members Chairman Louis Stokes and Congressman Christopher Dodd, accompanied by G. Robert Blakey, Gary Cornwell and Ed Lopez of the Select Committee staff arrived in Cuba at 3:30 p.m., March 30, 1978. They were met and escorted through Cuban Customs by the Mayor of Havana, Honorable Oscar Fernandez Mell, the Minister of Justice, Dr. Armendo Torres Sentrayll, Senor Buergo, Ricardo Escartin and the Cuban government translator, Juanita Vera. At approximately 7:30 p.m. Senor Mell escorted the Select Committee staff to a restaurant in Old Havana. The following day Richardson Preyer arrived in Cuba at 7:00 a.m.

At 9:30 a.m. on March 31, 1978 the Select Committee representatives met with Ricardo Escartin, Senor Buergo and Captain Felipe Villa of the Ministry of the Interior.

The Cuban Government gave the members and Committee their official reply to the Committee's questionnaire, given to the Cuban government prior to the Committee's trip to Cuba.

At 3:00 p.m., the Select Committee met again with

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Ricardo Escarten, Senen Buergo, Felipe Villa and Juanita Vera. During this session the two major areas of discussion were Lee Harvey Oswald's visa application and the dates of Jack Ruby's visits to Cuba in 1959. (See transcript.) At 7:30 p.m. the House Select Committee on Assassinations staff dined with the Minister of Justice, Armando Torres Sartrayll.

At 9:00 a.m. on April 1, 1978, the Select Committee staff again met with the same Cuban officials for a third session. Santo Trafficante was the major area of discussion. (See transcript.) At noon, Committee members and staff representatives met with Cuba's Minister of Education, Honorable Jose Ramon Fernandez, who gave a presentation on the improvement in quality of Cuban education since the Cuban Revolution.

Following Senor Fernandez's discussion at 3:15 p.m. Eusebio Azcue was interviewed by the Committee staff representative. Azcue was questioned extensively about Oswald's alleged trip to Mexico City, Oswald's alleged visits to the Cuban Consulate, and Senor Azcue's alleged argument with Lee Harvey Oswald. (See transcript of Azcue interview.)

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At 7:30 p.m., April 1, 1978, Messers Escartin and Hernandez accompanied the House Select Committee staff to the Tropicana Club which, prior to the Revolution, was operated by organized crime. The Tropicana Club is presently run by the Cuban government.

At 11:00 a.m. on April 2, 1978, the Committee staff again met with Senen Buergo, Ricardo Escartin, Felipe Villa, Aramis Gutierrez and Juanita Vera. Santo Trafficante, Jack Ruby and Mexico City were the major areas of discussion. This session terminated at 1:00 p.m. At 4:50 p.m., the morning's meeting resumed. During the afternoon session the major area of discussion was the alleged pro-Castro involvement in the assassination.

At 9:15 a.m., April 3, 1978, the Committee staff met with the Cuban officials for a final work session. During this session, the intelligence agencies and general questions derived from the questionnaire the Committee provided the Cuban government, were the major areas of discussion. Also during the session the Committee staff and Cuban officials exchanged listings of pending material which might be covered during a subsequent

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trip to Cuba by HSCA representatives and Congressmen.

At 6:00 p.m. the Committee staff met with President Fidel Castro who assured the Committee that neither he nor his government had any involvement in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. (See Castro interview.)

The House Select Committee on Assassinations staff departed Havana, Cuba at 10:00 a.m, April 4, 1978, arriving in Washington, D.C. at 4:30 p.m.

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Appendix 2: HSCA Procedural Write-up Mexico Trip

House Select Committee on Assassinations staffers Gary Cornwell, Dan Hardway, Edwin Lopez and Harold Leap arrived at the Mexico City airport at 8:30 p.m., May 30, 1978. (All times are Mexico City times, unless otherwise specified.) They were met and escorted through Customs by David Patton, an employee of the United States Embassy.

The following morning, May , 1978 the HSCA representatives met with U.S. Embassy Political Officer Richard Howard concerning procedure. Mr. Howard scheduled a meeting at 11:15 a.m. with the Chief of the CIA Station in Mexico City. This meeting was preliminary in nature and concerned procedures regarding arrangement of the interviews of ex-CIA employees in Mexico.

At 12:00 noon, the NSCA representatives and Richard Howard met representatives of the Government of Mexico. The Mexican representatives were: 1) Dr. Jesus Vanez, Advisor to the Attorney General's Executive Officer; 2) Fernando Baeza, Chief Administrative Officer for the Attorney General; and 3) Commandate Florentino Ventura, Chief of the Mexican Federal Police. The Mexicans

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informed the staff members at this meeting that they had located Silvia Duran, Horacio Duran, Ruben Duran and Pedro Gutierrez Valencia and that each person was willing to be interviewed by the HSCA representatives. Procedure for conduct of the interviews was also discussed at this meeting.

The Mexican government decided that the initial interview would be an informal contact with the witnesses to describe the Committee's objectives. The witnesses' statements would be formalized at a later, taped interview. The Mexican officials informed the HSCA staff members that they had been unable to locate Oscar Contreras, Elena Garro de Paz, Elenita Garro de Paz and Oscar Molina. The Mexican Government had not had contact with the Garros since 1968. The HSCA staff members provided additional information on Oscar Rodriguez Molina. The Mexicans said that they were trying to locate the Garros through the Foreign Ministry since Elena's ex-husband, Octavio Paz, was an important person in that ministry. The Mexicans asked that we determine the name of the Mexican Government contact during 1964 with the Warren commission so that they could locate their records in

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the Archives.

The Mexican officials left to set up the preliminary interviews with witnesses. The preliminary interviews were conducted by Gary Cornwell. HSCA staff members Dan Hardway, Edwin Lopez and Harold Leap were present during Cornwell's questioning. The Mexican Government was represented by Dr. Jesus Yanez, Commandante Florentino Ventura, and Jesus Meixueiro Kanty, second in command to Ventura. Pedro Gutierrez Valencia was interviewed at 2:30 p.m. Ruben Duran was interviewed at 5:00 p.m. Horacio Duran was interviewed at 5:30 p.m. Silvia Duran was interviewed at 6:15 p.m.

At 9:30 a.m. on June 1, 1978 the HSCA staff representatives met with the Mexican police representatives. The possibility of other witnesses and evidence was discussed. The HSCA staff requested 1) the records of the company that employed Gutierrez Valencia in 1963; press clippings of the Mexican newspaper coverage of Oswald and Silvia Duran (attached); an interview with Oscar Rodriguez Molina; 4) an interview with Oscar Contreras; 5) individual files on Elena Garro de Paz and Silvia duran; 6) evidence related to Silvia Duran's assertion

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that Oswald was at the Cuban Embassy on one day only;
7) Deba Garro de Guerrero Galvan; 8) Eunice Odio;
9) Emilio Carballido; and 10) Victor Rico Galan. The
HSCA also asked to be shown the Cuban Consulate.

The Mexican representatives informed the HSCA
staff that Victor Rico Galan had, at one time, been
arrested on political charges but that he was subse-
quently pardoned by either Diaz Ordaz or Luis Echevarria.
The Mexicans said that they were searching for all files
and newspaper articles requested by the HSCA.

The Mexican officials also offered their observa-
tions on the preliminary interviews conducted the pre-
vious day. They pointed out that they found it strange
that Silvia had told Oswald he could not travel while
in Cuba. They wondered what she was trying to tell
him and whether she thought that Oswald had some objec-
tive in going to Cuba other than that ascribed by the
popular version. They considered the manner in which
Silvia obtained employment at the Cuban Consulate unusual.
Generally they noted that Silvia and her brothers seemed
to have almost programmed responses and a defensive demean-
or. They pointed out, however, that all the Durans had

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had been very interested in talking to us. In their opinion, Ruben Duran was the most credible of those interviewed by the HSCA the previous day.

At this point, a Mexican official who had been checking the computer records informed us that Victor Rico Galan was dead.

HSCA staff members provided the Mexican authorities with the names of the Mexican officials who had been involved in the investigation in 1963.

HSCA staff members met again with the Mexican police authorities at 10:00 a.m. on June 2, 1978. At this time, the Mexican police provided the copies of the newspaper clippings on the assassination from the Excelsior. HSCA staff members asked if the Mexicans could persuade the newspapers to reveal the sources of their stories about Oswald and Silvia Duran. The Mexican officials' response was negative. The Mexican officials informed the HSCA staff members that most of the data we wanted from the files was in their Security Service files. The Mexican officials working at the HSCA explained that they were the Mexican equivalent of the FBI and that the Security Service was the Mexican equivalent of the CIA; hence there was the usual bureaucratic problem

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involved in obtaining access to their files. The Mexicans informed the HSCA representatives that Emilio Carbillido had been located; that Victor Rico Galan was dead; that Deba Garro could not be located; and that there was no record of anyone named Eunice Odio. HSCA representatives told the Mexican officials that Odio, who was either Costa Rican or Guatemalan, had been the mistress of Emilio Carballido. The assassination and the reaction of the Mexican people to this event was discussed.

At 1:00 p.m., HSCA staff members conducted an interview at the United States Embassy in connection with the CIA aspects of the Mexico City investigation.

At 2:30, Gary Cornwell discussed problems with the Chief of the Mexico City CIA Station. He requested that the COS cable Headquarters regarding restrictions placed on the HSCA staff in Mexico.

At 6:00 p.m., the HSCA staff members, accompanied by Jesus Meixueiro Kanty and his assistant, Honorio Escondon, met with the assistant chief of the Mexican Security Service Nazar. Mr. Nazar gave an oral resume of the interviews with Mexican officials conducted in 1963 of Silvia, Horatio and Ruben Duran and Betty Serratas.

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Mr. Nazar said that the files had to be formally requested before he could consider releasing them. He suggested that we secure statements admissible in United States courts from the witnesses whom we wished to interview. Mr. Nazar suggested that our best investigatory avenue would be to concentrate on Oswald's interrogation after his arrest on November 22nd. Mr. Nazar had a very low opinion of Elena Garro de Paz's credibility.

June 3 and 4, 1978, were spent on CIA-related aspects of the Mexico City investigation. Two interviews were conducted.

At 11:00 a.m. on June 5, 1978, the HSCA staff interviewed Horacio Duran for the record. At 1:00 p.m., HSCA staff member Edwin Lopez and Mexican officials Honorio Escondon and Dr. Alfonso Orozco Gutierrez interviewed Pedro Guerierrez Valencia for the record. At 5:00 p.m., HSCA staff members interviewed Lynn Duran, aka Lydia Duran, for the record.

On June 6, 1978 at 11:00 a.m., the HSCA staff interviewed Ruben Duran for the record. At 1:00 p.m., the staff representatives met with Commandate Ventura about unfinished business. The staff representatives agreed

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to supply the Mexicans with questions for two witnesses who could not then be interviewed. Commandate Ventura authorized Honorio Escondon to interview Oscar Contreras Latrigue and Ernesto Leffel Miller. At 5:00 p.m., the wife of Ruben Duran, Betty Serratos, was interviewed for the record. At 5:45 p.m., Silvia Duran was interviewed for the record.

The HSCA staff representatives left Mexico City at 8:30 a.m. on June 7, 1978, arriving in Washington, D.C. at 5:30 p.m., Washington time.

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Appendix 3: HSCA Procedural Write-up Mexico Trip 2

House Select Committee staffers Edwin Juan Lopez and Harold Leap traveled to Mexico City on August 7, 1978. The staff members were met by David T. Patton at the Mexican airport at 10:15 p.m. Mr. Patton then checked the staffers into Room 1754 at the Maria Isabel Hotel in Steinfield, CIA Chief of Station in Mexico City, wished to see us at 8:30 a.m. the following morning.

On Tuesday, August 8, 1978, Committee staffers met with Larry Sternfield. He informed the staffers that the two individuals the Committee wished to interview, Daniel Flores, aka Luis Aparicio and Ramon Alvarez Durant, were now available.

At 9:30 a.m., August 8, 1978, Committee staff members interviewed Danny Flores. (See write-up of Danny Flores interview.) The interview ended at approximately 10:15 a.m.

Committee staff members returned to Mr. Sternfield's office, Mr. Sternfield stated that it appeared the GOC had only been able to locate two witnesses for the Committee, Oscar Contreras Lartigue and Noe W. Palomares.

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He asked the staff members whom they wished to speak to. The Committee staff members explained that they would like to interview Lichant I, Licookie I, LiHuff I, Litamail 7 and Litamil 9. Mr. Steinfield stated that it appeared that the House Select Committee on Assassinations had already asked the Mexicans to locate them.

Mr. Steinfield stated that the HSCA's interview with Ramon Alvarez Duran was considered "highly sensitive." He explained that three rooms at a nearby hotel would be used. In one room, Ramon Alvarez Durant would sit, Committee staff members would sit in a second room and two CIA personnel officers would insure that the equipment worked properly in a third room. Mr. Steinfield then phoned Mr. Niles Gooding, who had been sent to the Mexico City Station from Headquarters to arrange the procedures for the interviews. Mr. Gooding explained that in 1977 Stansfield Turner had created a new position at Headquarters to insure that important sensitive meetings were within the guidelines previously arranged. Mr. Gooding stated that the Central Intelligence Agency had been under greater Congressional scrutiny than the past two years. Therefore, Director Turner, in order to demonstrate the Agency's good faith, had engaged a retired

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Army officer to act as liaison at sensitive interviews by Congressional representatives. Mr. Gooding then explained that we would be escorted by two CIA personnel to our interview with Ramon Alvarez Durant.

At 10:55 a.m., August 8, 1978, Committee staff members interviewed Ramon Alvarez Durant. (See Ramon Alvarez Durant interview write-up.)

At 12:30 p.m., Committee staff members telephoned Captain Fernandez Ventura Gutierrez. His secretary explained that Mr. Ventura was not in the office, but that she would have him call us when he returned. At 6:30 p.m., since Mr. Ventura had not yet returned the staffer's call, they again called his office. His secretary apologized for Mr. Ventura and explained that he had not yet returned to the office and she assured us that he would telephone upon his return. At 9:15 p.m., Dr. Jesus Yanez, the Assistant to the official mayor, telephoned the staff members explaining that Mr. Ventura was very busy on an important assignment and asked us to visit the Procuraduria General at 11:00 a.m. the following morning.

At 10:15 a.m., August 9, 1978, Committee staff members met with State Department Official Richard Howard

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to alert him that the Committee would request the Mexican officials to make Silvia Duran available in Washington for an HSCA hearing. Mr. Howard explained that once we had permission from the Mexican government the State Department would insure that she was in Washington when necessary.

At 11:00 a.m., August 9, 1978, Committee staff members met with Dr. Jesus Yanez and Cipriano Martinez Novoa. Mr. Yanez told Committee staff members that Cipriano Martinez Novoa, the Mexican agent in charge, would try to aid us in all our interviews. Mr. Martinez then briefed the Committee staff members on their up-to-date progress:

Oscar Contreras Lartigue had been located and pre-interviewed by Mr. Martinez in Tampico, Mexico. We would fly to Tampico on Friday, August 11, 1978 at 7:35 a.m. to interview him.

Noe W. Palomares had been located and could be interviewed during the afternoon of Thursday, August 10, 1978 at his office, Cerrada de la Presa 4. His phone number, 595-0891, was made available to the Committee.

June Cobb Sharp received a tourist permit, number

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72781, on June 27, 1947. She entered Mexico through Nuevo Lardo, Texas. She requested but was denied permission by the Mexican government 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.

The Committee staffers did not tell the Mexicans that the House Select Committee on Assassinations had evidence from review of June Cobb's 201 file that she was in Mexico in the Sixties.

Eunice Odio Infante, a Costa Rican, received a three-month tourist permit from the Mexican government on February 9, 1964. She remained in Mexico, illegally residing at Nacas-45-a, until 1972. She applied to write for the Excelsior magazine on many different occasions, but was rejected every time. In 1972, Ms. Odio married a Communist painter, Rudolfo Sanabria Gonzalez and moved to Rio Neba-16 Apartment 40. On May 24, 1972, Ms. Odio was found dead in her bathtub. The official presiding at her autopsy concluded that Ms. Odio had poisoned herself.

Emilio Carballido Fontanes was in Caracas, Venezuela, on vacation and scheduled to return to Mexico in early

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September. His address is Constituyentes 207. His phone number is 515-8345.

Consuelo Esperon's personnel record in Mexico could not be located. When the Mexican officials inquired about her at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City to the Committee's trip, no one at the office remembered that she had worked there. Committee staff members were told that Esperon was probably dead. No basis was given for the Mexican government's conclusion.

Al Wichtrich worked at Royal Crown Cola until 1968 when its offices in Mexico closed.

Carlos Jurado J. Delmar was born in Cuba on November 3, 1927. He entered Mexico July 1, 1965 and taught Graphics and Art at U.N.A.M. until January 1, 1968 when he disappeared. The Mexican officials assume that he returned to Cuba.

General Jesus Jose Clark Flores died in the early 1970's.

Ernesto Lehfeld Miller, Academic Coordinator at the School of Interior Design, had not yet been located.

Luis Alberue Suoto lives at Michelet #7, Apartment #301, Colonia Aneura, Mexico City. His phone number is 545-9947. The landlady at this apartment explained to

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the Mexican officials that Mr. Alberue had left town hurriedly on Monday, August 7, 1978. Mr. Martinez, wishing to know when he returned, had placed a piece of scotch tape on the bottom right edge of his door. Mr. Martinez explained that he checked it every four hours and would notify us if Alberue returned before we left.

Manuel Calvillo did not live at Cuahtemoc 877-5 as the Committee had stated. The landlady for the past twenty-five years at the apartments told Mr. Martinez that Manuel Calvillo had never resided there. Committee staff members explained that Calvillo went by a pen name which would be forwarded to the Mexican officials the following morning.

When Committee staff members inquired whether Ms. Silvia Tirado Bazan could testify at an HSCA hearing, the Mexican officials stated that they would have an answer for the staffers by Friday morning. The Mexican officials explained that they would have to speak to her to insure that she was willing to travel to Washington.

On Thursday, August 10, 1978, at 11:00 a.m. the Committee staff members met with Dr. Jesus Yanez, Agent Cipriano Martinez Novoa, Captain Florentino Ventura

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Gutierrez and Attorney General Licenciado,
Manuel Calvillo's "pen name" was given to the Mexicans
who stated that they would check it with the landlady
at his alleged apartment building.

Committee staffers returned to their hotel room
with Agent Cipriano Martinez Novoa after the meeting.
Agent Martinez attempted without success to telephone
Oscar Contreras Lartigue to inform him of our visit.
At 3:30 p.m., Agent Martinez finally reached Mr. Contreras'
child who informed him that Mr. Contreras was not in
Tampico. He had traveled to Mexico City for a Partido
Republicano Institucional convention. When Agent Mar-
tinez asked the child if he knew where his father was
staying in Mexico City, he responded that he did not.
Agent Martinez explained to the child that he would call
at a later time to speak to his mother.

Agent Martinez telephoned Noe W. Palomares at 4:00
p.m. and arranged an interview for 6:30 p.m. that even-
ing. Mr. Martinez asked Committee staff members to
meet him at his office at the Procuraduria General at
6:00 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m., August 10, 1978, Committee staff
members met Agent Cipriano Martinez at the Procuraduria

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General at 6:00 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m., August 10, 1978, Committee staff members met Agent Cipriano Martinez at the Procuraduria General. Martinez then drove the HSCA representatives to Mr. Palmoares' office. At 6:30 p.m., Committee staff members interviewed Noe W. Palomares. (See Noe W. Palomares interview write-up.)

Following the interview Agent Martinez returned to the Maria Isabel Hotel with Committee staff members. He attempted to reach Mrs. Contreras telephonically at Tampico twice without success. At 9:45 p.m., he finally contacted her. Mrs. Contreras told Agent Martinez that Mr. Oscar Contreras had told her that he would try to get a room at either the Hotel Regis or Hotel San Francisco. Mrs. Contreras explained that since there were a few conventions scheduled in Mexico City that weekend she could not assure that he would be at either. Mrs. Contreras told Agent Martinez that she would notify him if her husband should call.

Mr. Martinez called both hotels and niquired whether Oscar Contreras Lartigue was registered. He was not registered at either; they were completely booked up.

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Mr. Martinez attempted to reach by telephone Silvia Tiardo Bazan at her home to ask her whether she would be willing to travel to Washington to testify at a HSCA hearing and to ask if she knew where Mr. Ernesto Lehfeld Miller could be located. She was not at home, however.

Agent Martinez explained that he would attempt to locate Oscar Contreras Lartige Lartige at the hotel where the Partido Republicano Institucional was holding its convention early the following morning; after which he would meet the staff members at 9:30 a.m. at their hotel room.

At 9:45 a.m., August 11, 1978, Agent Martinez met Committee staffers at their hotel room and explained that he was unable to locate Mr. Contreras Lartigue at the convention. Mr. Martinez then left to check the whereabouts of Mr. Alberue Suoto and Silvia Tirado Bazan.

At 12:30 p.m., August 11, 1978, Agent Martinez returned to the Committee staff members' hotel room. He telephoned Mrs. Contreras in Tampico who stated that her husband had not telephoned her since she had last spoken to Agent Martinez. At 1:50 p.m., another agent, Honorio Escondon, telephoned Agent Martinez at the Committee staffers' hotel room to inform him that Luis Alberue Suoto must be back in town because the scotch tape placed at the base of his

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entranceway door was no longer in place. At 1:55 p.m., Agent Martinez telephoned Luis Alberue Sutoto. During the phone conversation, Alberue denied that he had worked at the Cuban Embassy in the Sixties, stated that he knew nothing about the assassination and declined the Committee staff members' request to interview him.

At 2:00 p.m., August 11, 1978, Agent Martinez telephoned Silvia Duran. Agent Martinez then gave the telephone to Committee staffer Lopez. Mr. Lopez ask Ms. Tirado whether she would be willing to testify sometime in September at a Committee hearing in Washington; she answered affirmatively. She stated that September 13th, 14th and 15th would not be "good days" because the Mexican Revolution celebration would be taking place and she was a planner and participant. When Mr. Lopez asked Ms. Tirado if she knew Mr. Ernesto Lehfeld Miller's phone number, she stated that she did not., but she stated that if we telephoned her ex-husband Horatio at either 516-0398 or 515-8621, he would be able to help us.

At 2:15 p.m., Committee staffer Lopez telephoned Horatio Duran, who gave him Ernesto Lehfeld Miller's office phone number, 548-4839. At 2:20 p.m., Lopez telephoned Mr. Miller and arranged a meeting for 9:00 p.m. that evening.

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At 2:30 p.m., Agent Martinez telephoned Capitan Ventura to report on his progress, pertaining to his work with the HSCA. When Martinez told Ventura that he had located Alberue, Ventura asked him if he was alone. When Agent Martinez lied and stated that he was alone, Ventura told him that he should under no circumstances allow us to interview Alberue. When Agent Martinez completed his phone call, he said, "I don't understand why nobody wants you to talk to him."

At 9: . p.m, August 11, 1978, Committee staffers interviewed Ernesto Lehfeld Miller. (See Ernesto Lehfeld Miller interview write-up.)

At 11:15 a.m., August 12, 1978, Committee staffer Lopez called Luis Alberue Suoto at his home. When Mr. Lopez identified himself, Mr. Alberue immediately stated that he knew nothing. He further stated that he never worked for the Cuban Embassy. When Lopez explained to him that employees at the Cuban Embassy had stated that he had been employed there, Mr. Suoto hung up. Mr. Alberue's voice quivered throughout the short talk.

At 11:45 a.m., Silvia Tirado called Lopez and stated that she had thought all night about travelling to Washington. She said she had seen a report in the newspapers in which Azcue had stated that the man who visited the Cuban Consulate

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in 1963 was not Lee Harvey Oswald. She stated that Azcue had only seen Oswald once while she had seen Oswald "at least three times." When Lopez said, "At least three times?" Ms. Tirado said. "Three times, you know?" She further stated that if she testified in Washington and the Committee concluded that she was lying she would be crucified when she returned to Mexico. Mr. Lopez reassured her and explained that when he returned to Washington he would send her a long letter explaining procedures.

At 12:05 p.m., Agent Martinez met the Committee staff members at the airport. He stated that Contreras and Calvillo had not been located. The Committee staffers gave Martinez a list of questions to ask Oscar Contreras Lartigue. Agent Martinez stated that he would mail the results of the interview to Lopez at the Committee offices in Washington. The Committee never received any interview reports from the Mexican government.

The Committee staff members left Mexico City at 1:55 p.m. and arrived at Washington's Dulles Airport at 10:35 p.m.

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Appendix 4: HSCA Procedural Write-up Cuba Trip 2

On August 25, 1978, Congressman Richardson Preyer and HSCA staff members G. Robert Blakey and Edwin Juan Lopez Soto traveled to Cuba from Miami at 8:25 a.m. on an Air-Taxi Service charter plane. The Committee representatives arrived in Cuba at 10:15 a.m. They were met by the Minister of Justice, Armondo Torres Snatrayll; Washington Consul Ricardo Escartin; American Department official, Senen Buergo; and translator, Nellie Ruiz de Zarade. The Committee representatives were escorted to their suite, room number 2003, at the Hotel Riviera at 11:00 a.m.

At 12:15 p.m., the Committee representatives met with Ricardo Escartin, Felipe Villa, Senen Buergo and translators Juanita Vera and Nellie Ruiz de Zarade. Also present were two Cuban stenographers. Senen Buergo, the spokesperson, welcomed the Committee representatives to Cuba and thanked the Committee for its correspondence. Mr. Buergo apologized on behalf of the Cuban government for the postponement of previously scheduled trips of May 24th and 25th, 1978. Mr. Buergo stressed that in his opinion there was a conspiracy to link Cuba to the assassination of John F. Kennedy. At that point, he handed four files

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to Congressman Richardson Preyer. The files consisted of:
a) material concerning Santo Trafficante; b) a letter dated 25 November 1963 from Hernandez Armas to Raul Roa; c) the results of the Cuban government's research into mis-information linking the Cuban Government to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy; and d) the report of the Investigative Committee of the International Tribunal of the Eleventh Festival reporting on the defamation campaign to link Cuba to the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Mr. Buergo stated that both Eusebio Azcue Lopez and Alfredo Mirabal Diaz would that day be made available for interviews. Mr. Buergo stated that Nilo Otero would be made available for interview the following day, 26 August 1978. Mr. Buergo stated that Rogelio Rodriguez was presently stationed in West Germany. Buergo stated that Ricardo Escartin, previously interviewed Mr. Rodriguez and was told by Rodriguez that he had had no contact with Lee Harvey Oswald. Mr. Buergo stated that if the Committee still desired to interview Rodriguez, he would be made available to the Committee. Mr. Buergo stated that an interview with Rolando Cubela Secades would be arranged.

Mr. Buergo asked if the Committee was still interested in interviewing Orestes Guillermo Ruiz Perez. Mr.

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