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ELIZABETH CATLETT MORA

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VReleased under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note) DATE: 11-14-2017 SECRET lmont Mohr Rosen DeLoach Sullivan Malley Branigan April 16, 1964 BY COURTER SERVICE Lenihan - Rose Stokes Honorable J. Lee Rankin General Counsel The President's Commission 200 Maryland Avenue, N. E. Washington, D. C. **DECLASSIFY** Dear Mr. Rankin: Enclosed are two copies of a memorandum in the Lee Harvey Oswald case dated April 10, 1964, classified "Secret." The enclosed memorandum deals with the comments and speculations of one Elizabeth Catlett fora, a naturalized Mexican citizen of American originatio is presently a member of the Communist Party of Memico. In regard to Mora's remark concerning the importance of locating press references to Oswald's activities in New Orleans, Louisiana, before he went to Russia, our report dated March 9, 1964, at New Orleans, Louisiana, sets forth the negative results of our review of New Orleans newspapers for the period immediately prior to Oswah is departure for France on September 20, 1959. Investigation has previously established that Oswald received his passport on September 10, 1959, at Los Angeles, California, and was discharged from the United States Marine Corps in California on September 11, 1959. Additional function concerning Oswald's activities in the New Orleans area in September, 1959, is set forth in our report in the Oswald case dated December 10, 1963, at New Orleans. It appears that Oswald checked into the Liberty Hotel in New Orleans con September 17, 1959. BY Mohr Group 1 Casper Callahan Excluded from nutomatic Contad downgrading and DeLoach declassification JCS: jal: pah (SEE NOTE PAGE

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Honorable J. Lee Rankin



You will observe that Mora has been ill and, because of her illness, our source has been unable to obtain additional data concerning her comments despite persistent efforts to this end. Our source is still hopeful of developing further details and additional information will be furnished to you as it is developed.

For your information, copies of the enclosed memorandum have been furnished to the Central Intelligence Agency in view of its interest in Oswald's activities while in Russia.

Sincerely yours.

L Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)

NOTE:

The enclosed letterhead is from Mexico City. It sets forth speculations of Mora that Oswald could be linked to Mexico only through his activities prior to going to USSR in 1959. Mora indicated that tie in to Mexico may lie in press references to Oswald's activities in New Orleans for the few days he was in that area prior to going to Russia in September, 1959, when he was 19 years old. She also said that Oswald knew Mary Louise Patterson, (an American negress presently attending the Friendship School in USSR) when he was in Russia; hence we are furnishing copies of letterhead to CIA. Four sources in contact with Mora (the highly placed Mex-18 and Mex-19) anticipated spending a few days with Mora, who has been ill, during first two weeks of April however, they cannot assure us that Mora will be well enough for recontact as she has been ill for a long time.

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SEE NOTE CONTINUED PAGE THREE



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NOTE CONTINUED:

Letter classified "Secret" as Legat has so classified letterhead to protect our sensitive sources who furnish information involving espionage and other information vital to internal security of U.S. Letter bears Group One as its contents tend to indicate that our sources are in contact with Mora.

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