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~~SECRET~~ ALVARADO-Ugarte

OLC 78-1065/40
12 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Shepanek
O/SA/DO/O

FROM : Mr. Rodger S. Gabrielson
OLC/C&R

SUBJECT : Sanitization of HSCA Researcher Notes

1. (S) Attached for your review, appropriate sanitization, and classification is a copy of the notes taken by HSCA researcher Cynthia Cooper regarding Mexico City cable traffic.

2. (U) Please use black grease pencil to excise and directly above the excised information please write in a sanitized description of the information excised, for example: employee, asset, etc.

3. (U) Please send us a copy of the notes after your sanitization and we will forward to the Committee. All original notes will be kept in this office under the name of the particular researcher involved.

Rodger S. Gabrielson

Rodger S. Gabrielson

Attachment

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1993
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

~~SECRET~~

IMPDET CL BY 27305

- ~~[illegible]~~

Cynthia Cooper
6-9

To Mexico 11-22 cite 84802
use all your facilities to follow
& report soviet embassy activity & reaction
during these hours.

To Mexico 11-23 84821
send staffer w/all photos of Oswald
to HQS next available flight.

To Mexico 11-23 84837
asked for following info on Kostikov
- travels
- whereabouts 11-22 and activities in Nov
- names & bcgrd of contacts
- future contacts
- unusual activities involving KGB
or Soviet Personnel from 11-30 November

To Mexico 11-23 84885
Kostikov traveled in Sept
w/ Ivan Garrilovich Alferyev (who in close
contact w/ Cuban consul

Mexico 11-23 84916
Arrest of Duran could prejudice Odyoke freedom of action on entire question of FBRUMEN responsibility. Arrest should be kept secret, fact of or content should not be leaked especially to leftist circles in Mexican govt.

Mexico 11-23 84917
ref. 84916 keep legal attache fully informed

18 + 19 missing

Mexico 11-24 84920
Hdq - Questioned what exactly Oswalds travel plans to Cuba and ~~Gov~~ Russia were. Was he leaving immediately or going to return to states first.
Sug - Duran should be questioned very carefully on this point.

Mexico 11-24 84921
5 license plates # and persons belonging to - having to do w/ Duran.

p { Mexico 11-25 84926
Request of cable summary of info on Duran. Also request Litamil Nine be questioned as to his knowledge on LHO contacts w/ Cuban, & Soviet Embassies

Mexico 11-25 84952
Obtain and cable reports or statements on Duran & husband.

Mexico 11-27 8-5178

1) Mann's message delayed to addressee decision (on what?) will be cabled to you after they confer, 11-27 probably

2) - Suggested contact made w/ Alvarado's Nic. case officer, whether he had mentioned story to him.

3) No action to re-arrest Duran or others w/out approval.

Mexico 11-27 8-5198

1. Analyse and investigate Alvarado's story further before more action.

2. Note Alvarado's claim still in Nicaraguan service although Managua's belief he was dropped 8-63.

3. Rusk and Hoover might have recommendations on this problem after further consideration.

- The explanation for gaps is that all cables sent by the director were in the same number series.

Mexico 11-27 8-5245

1. Justice Dept. will be preparing a report on assassinations and will want info. on Oswald's activities in Mexi. Cannot compromise Lisenvoy but Duran statements essentially the same so pls. send translated versions of her statements.

Mexico 11-27 85258

2. Odenwy says -
Oswald applied for unemployment 9-17
He is checking airlines.
Left N.O. 9-25 for TX w/out paying rent.
3. Above further reason not to believe Alvarado.

Mexico 11-27 85318 re: Mexi 7101

1. Shelle instructions coordinated w/ Odacid and Odenwy.
2. Mexican authorities should interrogate Duran to extent necessary to clarify outstanding points which have been raised by your cables last 48 hrs. You may provide questions but there will be no contact between Duran & Americans.

Mexico 11-27 85371

Request of Duran should not be associated w/ Americans - ~~Mexicans~~ We want Mexicans Authorities to take responsibility for whole affair."

Mexico 11-27 85391

Info from Odenwy re: licence plates reference belonging to L. Morgan Daniels Mermino Duarte Martins.

Mexico 11-27 85469 Mexi re: 7104

2. Have discussed 7104 with Alex Johnson. Waits Mann to know that requested ~~instructions~~ instructions will probably not be forthcoming prior 11-28. Odenwy has jurisdiction in Wash. Both Odacid & Kubark attempting to follow wishes.

3. Here is a feeling in 3 agencies Mann is pushing cable to hard ref. para 5 - 7104. Will cause flap with Cubans. Johnson sent Odacid channels to Mann to give better perspective.

Mexico 11-27 85616

In the face of mounting evidence it appears that Alvarado's story is a fabrication. Urge you follow up with his Nic case officer.

Coincidence that Dorticos and Alvarado talk of money paid to Oswald not remarkable.

Interrogators of Alvarado must.

1. probe deeply into makeup
2. be sympathetic
3. promise "face saving secrecy" and specious hopes of future cooperation

Mexi 11-28 85653

Proved Oswald was in NO 9-17 with this info clear that Alvarado is a fabricator and psychiatric help could be suggested.

Mexico 11-28 #5654

Story of bank deposit by Oswald of $6,000 could be misleading and give support to Alvarado. But story is uncorroborated. Ple. do not assume this office is in possession of facts known to Odenzy or Dallas P.D. Odenzy has requested full info on this story from HQ Official.

Mexico 11-28 #5655
re: #5469

Do not discontinue or let down your investigation - We have not precluded the possibility of involvement by as yet unknown persons.

Mexico 11-28 #5661

Do not turn Alvarado over to Mexicans. Odenzy has been asked for opinion on this matter.

Advise if Odenzy in Mexi attempts to get you to act on turning Alvarado over to Mexicans.

Mexico 11-28 #5663

Odenzy requests Kubark turn Alvarado over to Mexican police.

Mexicans will be requested to administer polygraph.

Mexico 11-28 #5667 re: 7120

no fluent Spanish speaking plutter man available.

Mexico 11-29 85669
Orthyroid 3 should go to Mexico - can be used as consultant to Mexicans

Mexico 11-29 85672
Request for continual updates on Duran & Alvarado interviews.

Mexico 11-29 85712
Time is of essence in reporting what Mexicans are learning from Alvarado & Duran. Up to know we have been forwarding messages to Odenvy. Pls give info immediately to Odenvy Mexico City and they will cable Odenvy Hdqs.

Mexico 11-30 86064
Heard Alvarado confessed he lied. Cable details of interrogation. "what threats, promises, inducements and tactics used by Litempo." "Was Alvarado physically mistreated?" "Much?" Did Alvarado hear false story of bank deposit? Urge Nic. not to do away w/him. Question of Oswald acting solely on own still unanswered.

Mexico 12-3 86563
rr: 7203
Alvarado will be polygraphed due to retraction of confession.

we do not want him returned to Nicaragua till he is fluttered. Arrange w/ Litempos to release Alvarado to us for few days.

2. Calvin Davis of Kusod will arrive 12-4 Do not blow him and prefer Mexicans not be aware of plans to flutter Alvarado. Davis will be in charge of flutter

Clarke Anderson Odenvy will act as interpreter so he can testify at later hearings.

Alvarado should not be in fear of bodily harm and should be fed and rested. The question of him returning to Nicaragua should be open, this gives flutter man "maximum maneuvering room".

Mexico 86621 12-4
Plan and progress for Alvarado flutter good. Use hotel. Idea of 2 spanish speaking interrogators good.

Mexico 86659 12-4
Arrival plans for Davis

Mexico 12-5 86976
Did Davis get through customs alright?

Mexico 12-7 87666
Alvarado will be returned to ~~the~~ Nicaragua - story is a hoax. Avoid anything which would induce

and to this end

Alvarado to assume fabrication
We request Mexican + Nicaraguan
authorities take no punitive actions.

Mexico 12-12 88642
Odeny wishes to wind up
analysis of case an needs the
results of interrogation of Duran
& Husband during second arrest.
We conjecture she may not have
been interrogated.

Mexico 12-12 88650
Do not erase Cuban +
Soviet tapes made between 11-22 and
present.

Mexico 12-16 89366
En para 2 Duran states
Aparicio has a telephone - 141299
Who is Aparicio and is that
his number?
Pls. have monitors identify voices
of various Soviets to whom Oswald
or Duran dealt w/on the telephone

Mexico 12-20 90466
Present plan on passing info to
W.C. is to eliminate mention of telephone
taps in order to protect your continuing
ops. But will rely on Duran statements
and Soviet files on Oswald.

Director 11-23 67190

Mexi suggest to Litempo 2 that Duran be arrested immediately and held incommunicado.

Director 11-23 67236
-Arrest of Duran (notification)

Director 11-24 67252
in 1-63 Duran seen in 2 cars w/ Texas Plates.

Director 11-24 67264
1. Oswald entered Nuevo Laredo on 9-26
2. Left by auto 10-3-63

Director 11-24 67262
Mann was very pleased re: 8-4917 about arrest of Duran but hopes Washington can decide leads

Director 11-24- 67278
C Segretia told COS Duran completely cooperative.

Director 11-27 67378
re: content of Duran interview nothing new

Director 11-26 68291
Station office & security officer are interviewing Alvarado. Request traces on Alvarado.

Director 11-26 68376
cable gives account of Alvarado's story.

Director 11-26 68400
from Mann
for McCone Rusk & Hoover
Mann with compliance from Schoo and Anderson suggests confronting Duran w/ Alvarado
3. "If she did break under interrogation and we suggest mexicans should be asked to go all out in seeing that she does"

Director 11-27 68496
1. Mann has asked State that Odessy officer be sent for briefing off U.S. angle of case.

Director 11-27 68542
Mann feels not fully briefed on Oswald/Rubenstein deal.
Chief Odessy in Mexi feels this might be interpreted as a lack of confidence in him

COI feels Chief Odenz one of best and most cooperative and Mann has expressed satisfaction with Chief Odenz many times.

But Odenz should send officer to satisfy Mann unless Johnson can convince Mann that she is receiving all information.

Director 11-27 0530

Alvarado's story being checked thoroughly. Re interviewed in greater detail, has been moved to safe address. Close surveillance put on Duran as of 11-26 by Echeverria.

Director 11-27 0912Z

Alvarado reinterviewed 11-26. Identified photos of Cuban consulate personell not by name but by height, duties, skin coloring, disposition, etc.

Reenacted passing of money

Spoke of background.

Director 11-27 69 between 0913Z - 0914Z

Duran has been rearrested because trying to leave Mexico for Cuba.

Director 11-27 69225
from Mann
1. In taped telephone ~~[illegible]~~ conversation Armas & Dorticos, Dorticos again expressed concern that the Mexican police had questioned Duran about money.
2. Alvarado questioned again. Wealth of detail makes story striking.
3. Echevarria later denied to legal attache that he had any concrete evidence that Duran was about to go to Cuba. Contradictory statements made are explained by desire of government of Mexi to play down importance of Oswald visit there. Echevarria stated Dorticos only wanted to know if Mexicans tried to pay Duran for story. Suggest ~~they~~ Mexican authorities arrest Azcue Luisa Calderon and Alfredo Mirabel.

Director 11-27 69310
Seems that Alvarados story only proves he's been in Cuban embassy. Asks for (Nic) Jerez to be present to put Nicaraguan weight with no questions.

Director 11-28 69620
Request authorization to turn Alvarado over to Litempos w/ brief explanation. W/ approval

brief explanation includes that he plans to travel to Cuba w/false Mexican papers "Latter point alone gives Mexicans good reason to subject him to detailed interrogation"

of turnover station would plan no further contact with Alvarado.

Director 11-28 69636

Durans reaction at Cuban embassy after interrogation - said had been threatened with extradition to US to face Oswald but was unafraid.

Neither L-7 or L9 had any knowledge of Oswald being in the Cuban Embassy at any time.

Director 11-28 69659 re: 85371
The second pickup of Duran by
Gov. initiative shows Mexicans desire
to cooperate. Echevarria receives
instructions from Litenson not to
release until Curtis said so. At
HQ request Curtis furnished questions.
Decision re: release must be
Mexicans.

Director 11-28 69670
Request for Spanish speaking
plant man if Alvarado rejects.

Director 11-28 69676
Mexican are pleased to pick
up Alvarad for questioning. Unless
something new turns up in his
interrogation of Durans she
will be released during night
of 11-28 or early 11-29.
Echevarria advised the Mexican
Government refused to ~~pick up~~ accept
the note given to Amb. Borges
in Havana by Cuban Foreign
Minister - Raul Roa.

Director 11-29 70103
Duran released 1900 hrs. 11-28
She still appears to Mexicans only
involved w/ Oswald for business

Director 11-29 70145

1. Litempo 4 11:30 hrs. Alvarado gives same story Mexicans as given to Station. Except failed to identify picture of Durán

2. Interrogation continues. Alvarado till now shave, has begun to get tougher

3 Alvarado gives same story as regard he is in Mexico.

4. Litempo 4 does not believe story and will try to "break"

Director 11-30 70530

1. Litempo 4 (very intelligent officer) says: talked w/ Alvarado

1 hr morning 11-29

3 hrs afternoon 11-29

2. First session Litempo 4 thought Alvarado telling "fantastic" lie. After second session and all interim Alvarado sticking to story Either telling the truth essentially or he is the best liar I have talked to in my many years and I have talked to some of the biggest." Litempo inclined to believe Alvarado but believes he is mixed up on dates.

* Thyroid 3 appears to have just Earrived and not seen Litempo 4 yet.

Note - between 70530 and 70860 there is no mention of further interrogation or meetings between Litempo 4 and Cthyroid 3.
Director 11-30 70860

1. Litempo 4 & Cthyroid 3 met evening of 11-29 "unofficially" and C 3 reported on Alvarado's background. We told Litempo 4 that Alvarado has been "75% accurate" in his reporting and had had access and furnished good information on communism in past. We said, however, that Alvarado included "Do off on his own" at times and impossible control.
2. At 1030 hours 11-30 Litempo 4 reported to COS that Alvarado has signed a statement saying that story of seeing Oswald [illegible] Cuban Embassy is completely false. Did not call the U.S. Embassy on 9-28 first call was 9-25.
3. Part about wanting false Mexican documentation and go to Cuba for sabotage training is true.
4. Motive was to get U.S. to take action against [redacted] & Castro.

The time mixup is this 70530 stated 2135 11-29.

Director 12-2 71902

1. Erthyroid 3 saw Alvarado first time 12-2 and reverted to previous story. Did call PB SWING to report (PBSWING invest. does not support. He was threatened ~~by~~ with hanging by testicles.

2. Alvarado not their agent when visited Cuban Embassy according to E3

3. Reported that Alvarado was being deported and E3 would be able to interrogate him fully.

Director 12-3 72684

Mann sent cable to Johnson advising him of Alvarado's story recommends Kubark & Odenoy send flutter operator to Manacua to interrogate Alvarado.

Director 12-3 72877

1. Echevarria agrees to lend
(12-5) Alvarado to COS

2. Questioning held either safehouse or hotel - please advise.

3. Clark Anderson or Joe Garcia will act as interpreters.

4. Request Ethyroid 3 be advised by sys. to stay in Mexico

Director 12-5 74273
1. Peter K Woodhead arrived and got through customs no problem.
2. Interrogation held Apt #3 Calle Merida 166
Anderson alone will interpret for Woodhead.

Director 12-6 74696
1. Alvarado bitter at Mexicans and embassy for turning him over
2. Question of flutter not yet broached. Migration Inspectors taking him out for a good meal tonight in hopes of prolonging upswing of ~~[illegible]~~ rapport reached toward end of session

Director 12-7 75571
Erthyroid 3 returning Mana 12-7

Director 12-7 75588
Flutter shows subject fabricating story
Alvarado returning Managua 12-8

Director 12-10 77704
6 Tapes of Alvarado being
pouched and sent 12-10.

Director 12-12 79373
Duran during second interrogation
that
no affiliation w/ Soviet Embassy
or CCP
remembered Oswald perfectly - wore
no glasses
knew of no red headed negro
had no plans to go to Cuba