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TO :

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SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER 1963.

DATE : 12/11/1964
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SUBJECTS :
DURAN, RUBEN
PAZ, ELENA
MEXICO CITY
DURAN, SILVIA

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DBA 93645

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
December 11, 1964

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

THE CIA HAS NO OBJECTION
TO THE DECLASSIFICATION OF
THIS DOCUMENT.

AUTHORITY: HR 702

REVIEWER: LEE HARVEY OSWALD - Report that subject attended

to give by Nelson and Silvia DURAN in Super Ct 63
2-27-63

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE
ON 8-7-93

- RELEASE IN FULL
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The following information was supplied on
November 24, 1964, by Mrs. ELENA GARRO DE PAZ and her
daughter, ELENA PAZ GARRO.

They are residents of Mexico City, but declined
to supply their home address. Mrs. PAZ stated she is a
cousin of RUBEN, LIDIA, and HORACIO DURAN, the latter being
the husband of SILVIA TIRADO DE DURAN. She said she had not
furnished previously the information set forth hereinafter
because of fear of reprisals.

Mrs. PAZ said that on August 23, 1963, she attended
a dinner at the home of a Mexican Communist whom she declined
to identify. Among others present at this dinner were Cuban
Consul EUSEBIO AZCUE and his wife. She had not previously
known AZCUE. In conversation with him during the course of
the evening she learned that he was supposed to return to
Cuba on or about August 27, 1963. She later learned that
he did not depart Mexico at that time.

According to Mrs. PAZ, she had infrequent contact
with her cousins, the DURANS; however, on a date she fixed
as Saturday, September 28, 1963, she received a telephone
call from RUBEN DURAN, who invited her and her daughter to
attend a party at his house during the first part of the
following week. She was unable to fix the exact date of
this party, but felt it had been held on Monday, Tuesday,
or Wednesday, September 30, October 1, and October 2,
1963, respectively, with the most likely possibility that
it was held on the evening of October 1 or October 2, 1963.

It was Mrs. PAZ' recollection that at about

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9:00 a.m. on the date of the party she and her daughter were picked up and taken to the party by LIDIA DURAN. Also accompanying them was Mrs. PAZ' sister, DEVA GARRO DE GUERRERO GAVAN. She described this sister as a Communist who was expelled from the Party for being a Catholic.

She estimated that some thirty people attended the party, described as a "twist" party, at the home of RUBEN DURAN. Upon arrival at RUBEN's home she noted what appeared to be a young American couple near the door, but they left shortly thereafter.

At about 10:30 p.m. three young, white Americans arrived at the party. They were greeted by SILVIA DURAN and spoke only to her. They more or less isolated themselves from the rest of the party and insofar as she observed they had no conversation with anyone else at the party.

The three Americans appeared to be between twenty-two and twenty-four years of age. One of them was dressed in a sweater and dark trousers and appeared to be about five feet nine inches in height. The second one was about six feet tall, had blond, straight hair, a long chin, and was a bit "beatnik" in appearance although his dress included a coat. The third American wore no coat.

Mrs. PAZ said the American dressed in the sweater and dark trousers resembled very much press photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Her daughter agreed with this observation. Photographs of OSWALD in various poses were exhibited to both Mrs. PAZ and her daughter at the time of the interview and they were unable to make a positive identification, but claimed he very much resembled the American at the party as they recall him.

Mrs. PAZ could not state how long the three Americans remained at the party nor did she observe them when they departed. She questioned HORACIO DURAN as to the names of the Americans, and he told her they were friends of SILVIA DURAN. He did not give her their names, but did tell her they were supposed to depart Mexico City the following morning. She added that this latter was not correct inasmuch as she and her daughter, while driving in an automobile on Insurgentes Street the following morning, observed the three Americans walking near a furniture store on that street.

It is to be noted that investigation has established that LEE HARVEY OSWALD departed Mexico City by bus at 8:30 a.m. on October 2, 1963, and could not have been identical with the American allegedly observed by Mrs. PAZ at the party if this party were held on the evening of October 1 or October 2, 1963.

Mrs. PAZ 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. She said 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. Mrs. PAZ exhibited two of these letters, as well as a business card which identified the young man as ARIO ALEJANDRO LAVAGNINI STENIUS.

An examination of the letter which Mrs. PAZ said was the first directed to her daughter by the young man disclosed that it bears the date of September 1, 1963, and was postmarked at the Mexico City Post Office on September 2, 1963.

Questioned as to whether her daughter had known the young man prior to the party at the RUBEN DURAN home, Mrs. PAZ was most insistent that she had not. When it was pointed out to her that the first letter from the young man to her daughter bore a Mexico City postmark of September 2, 1963, she commented that probably the Communists have facilities for falsifying postmarks.

On November 27, 1964, ARIO ALEJANDRO LAVAGNINI STENIUS, Martinez de Castro No. 19, Tacubaya, Mexico, D. F., Mexico, was interviewed. He advised that he is an employee of General Electric de Mexico and recalled attending a large party sometime in the latter half of 1963 at the apartment of RUBEN DURAN located on Herodoto Street in Mexico City. He was not a friend of the DURAN family, but had been invited to the party by Mrs. ISABEL NANSON, a divorcee who was formerly married to an American and a close friend of the wife of RUBEN DURAN. An Italian friend of his, MARCELLO FABRE, was also invited to the party by Mrs. NANSON. He, Mrs. NANSON, and FABRE went to the party together.

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LAVAGNINI recalled that there were about thirty people at the party, few of whom he knew. At the party he 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 at about 2:00 a.m.

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.

He volunteered to consult his papers and attempt to fix the date of the party. On December 2, 1964, he advised that he recalled having been at two different parties at the DURAN home, one of these being the large party at which he had met the Mexican girl who had formerly lived in France. He was unable to fix the date of this party.

LAVAGNINI said he had questioned Mrs. NANSON and MARCELLO FABRE, and they were unable to recall the date of the party nor could they recall that any Americans had been present at the party.

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 Bill,
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