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From: CN=Joseph Freeman/O=ARRB
DisplayFromDomain:
DisplayDate: 02/01/1996
DisplayDate_Time: 11:00:46 AM
ComposedDate: 02/01/1996
ComposedDate_Time: 10:21:23 AM
Subject: Conversation with Richard Manuel

Richard Manuel called me today in response to my message and we talked at some length. He came across as a reasonable and relatively articulate individual. The first thing he told me was that Anne Buttmer had been in contact with him previously. This led me to Anne's contact files via Dave Montague. Anne wrote Manuel a quick letter on 10/12/95 (non-final copy attached to hardcopy of this E-Mail). She called him and left a message on 10/23/95. They finally connected on 10/24/95, Call Report attached. What follows reflects things Manuel told me today that are not reflected in Anne's previous Call Report. Manuel didn't move to New Orleans until 1966/67. He worked for a while, in advertising, at Standard Fruit and Steamship Co. and his office was on Lafayette St. near Bannister's office, Mancuso's, etc. The advertising office was situated with/near Standard's print shop and Manuel got to be good friends with two guys who worked in the print shop: Ray Ohlman and Lloyd Reisch (Manuel wasn't sure of the spelling of Lloyd's surname). Ohlman and Reisch were New Orleans natives, from St. Bernard Parish ("Chalment" - phonetic sp.). The two of them also had their own printing business on the side -- Knight Printing Company. Manuel says Ohlman and Reisch knew Bannister and had seen him at Mancuso's with Oswald. Manuel hasn't been in touch with Ohlman and Reisch in years, but would be surprised if they ever left New Orleans. Also, Manuel says Bannister was involved with and even charged (subsequently dropped) in a burglary of plastic explosives from an oil exploration firm ("Slumberger" or "Slumberje", says Manuel, pronounced "slumber-jay"). The sheriff who brought the charges was Eddie St. Marie of either Laforce (phonetic sp.) or St. John's parish. This burglary, says Manuel, was widely assumed/understood to be a CIA-sponsored material acquisition expedition on behalf of anti-Castro Cuban forces. I hadn't heard of this one, but perhaps others have. Remember, Bannister was dead before Manuel ever got to New Orleans. Presumably Manuel picked a lot of this up either from Ohlman or Reisch, or during his subsequent NO career as a private investigator. Manuel left NO in the 73-74 range. I told Mr. Manuel I'd pass this along and thanked him for contacting us.

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Categories: