

LaFontaine Summary

Sergio Arcacha Smith

New Orleans Representative for the Cuban Revolutionary Council. The CRC had an office on 544 Camp Street. Had associations with David Ferrie, Clay Shaw and Guy Banister. Later relocated to Dallas.

Garrison investigators had hoped to interview Arcacha Smith. Arcacha Smith tried to hold them off (with the assistance of the Dallas Police Department Intelligence Unit), and was, for the most part, successful. Hugh Aynesworth of Newsweek provided Arcacha Smith and the DPD with information from sources inside the Garrison camp. This information proved to be very important as it undercut Garrison's investigation and helped Arcacha Smith fight extradition to Louisiana.

Father Walter M. McChann

Was very involved in assisting the Cuban Refugee population in East Dallas. (Headed the Cuban Catholic Committee of Dallas).

Rumoured to have had an affair with Sylvia Odio and other female parishoners during his tenure in Dallas.

Sylvia Odio reportedly talked to McChann regarding the "Leon Oswald" incident before the assassination.

McChann was friendly with Sylvia Odio's uncle Dr. Agustin Guitart, who was present at Carlos Bringuier's court appearance after the street scuffle in New Orleans.

Prior to the assassination, he was last seen in Dallas at a Cuban exile meeting where John Martino spoke about his experiences as a Cuban prisoner on 01 October 1963. Later returned to Dallas a few weeks after the assassination but quietly moved out of town. There is speculation (especially in the book *Kennedy Ripples*) that he left because he had information on the assassination.

Ricardo Davis

is not mentioned in the LaFontaine index.

Sylvia Odio

The LaFontaines delve deeply into the Odio story, primarily using information already detailed in other assassination books. However, they focus more on her associations with anti-Castro groups and their gun-running efforts, and her communications with Father McChann regarding the identities of the two men who allegedly accompanied Lee Harvey Oswald. The LaFontaines primary theory on the Odio allegations is this: that Sylvia's sister, Sarita, was associated with a fellow student at the University of Dallas, Fermin de Goicochea, who was involved in planning an invasion of Cuba. The invasion was to be armed with guns stolen from Fort Hood, Texas. The LaFontaines speculate that Sarita was meeting with de Goicochea and Oswald regarding these gun-running activities, and that Sylvia sought to protect de Goicochea by inventing a story about Oswald and two unidentifiable

Cubans.

Lucille Connell

Lucille Connell was a “Dallas society matron,” a “Protestant contributor to the Cuban relief committee” who befriended Sylvia’s sister Sarita while Sarita was a student at the University of Dallas. Connell paid for Sylvia’s air fare to Dallas from Puerto Rico, where Sylvia had been “languishing” after he family had left Cuba. Connell introduced Sylvia into Dallas social circles and became her closest confidante. Connell referred Dr. Einspruch (psychiatrist) to Sylvia.

Connell testified that Sylvia had told her that she (Sylvia) had seen Oswald more than once, specifically, at several anti-Castro meetings in the Dallas area. Sylvia was seemingly impressed with Oswald, and had called him “brilliant.” She also stated that Sylvia and an associate had called Cubans in New Orleans in order to check on Oswald’s background. They were informed that Oswald might be a “double agent.”

Joanna Rodgers

The LaFontaine book refers to a “John Rogers family” in a listing of Sylvia Odio’s Dallas socialite friends. There is no reference to a Joanna Rodgers.

Patty Link

Associated with Father McChann. Speculated on the disappearance of McChann and Sylvia’s frantic efforts to locate the Father after the assassination (p. 268).

Mary Sullivan

Was involved with Father McChann in his efforts to assist the Cuban refugee population in Dallas through the Catholic Church. Apparently had an affair with Father McChann and was engaged in a competition with Sylvia Odio for the Father’s affections. (p. 265)

Casey Denton

Does not appear in the LaFontaine book.

Marcella Insua

Daughter of a wealthy Cuban exile, Jose Insua. Active in the Dallas Cuban exile community. According to the book *Kennedy Ripples*, on the night of 01 October 1963, after attending the John Martino speech, Marcella was visited by two Cubans in search of Sylvia Odio, as they had found her apartment empty. The Cubans informed Ms. Insua that their American friend “Lee” was waiting in the car. Marcella then informed the two men that Sylvia had moved to another apartment in Oak Cliff. (P. 272)