

Senor Eusebio Azcue Lopez

HSCA Vol. III

Michelle Seguin

4.0.1.3

IDENTIFICATION OF WITNESS:

Senor Azcue was Consul of the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City at the time of Oswald's alleged visit to Mexico City in September-October of 1963.

SUMMARY:

Testifying before the Committee, Azcue stated that he lived in Mexico City from 1944 to 1963, departing Mexico for Cuba on November 18, 1963. Since September of 1963, Azcue had been turning over responsibilities as Consul to Alfredo Mirabal who was to become the new Cuban Consul in Mexico City. Azcue testified that "Oswald" visited the Cuban Consulate on three occasions. The first two visits were on September 27, 1963 and the third visit occurred on September 28, 1963.

During the first visit, Oswald filled out an application for a transit visa to Cuba and was told by Sylvia Duran, the secretary who routinely handled all visa applications, that he needed photographs to attach to the application. Oswald then left the Cuban Consulate to obtain some photographs and returned the same day to complete the application process. At this time, Duran affixed the photographs to the six copies of the application and witnessed Oswald signing all six copies. (The application was dated September 27, 1963.) Azcue contends that he was not present at the

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time the application was completed and thus did not witness Duran attaching the photographs and Oswald signing the application. Azcue never looked at the photographs nor the completed application; Mirabal was the officer who signed and authorized Oswald's application. Furthermore, Azcue testified that he informed Oswald during the second visit that he must acquire a Soviet visa before he could be issued a Cuban transit visa. Although Azcue could not recall the specific date, he also testified that he received a call from the Soviet Embassy regarding Oswald's application and the authenticity of the documents Oswald presented at the Cuban Consulate. During the third visit, Azcue reiterated to Oswald that he could not issue Oswald a Cuban transit visa until the Soviet Union granted him a visa. The two men had a big argument which resulted in Oswald being asked to leave the Consulate.

In addition, Azcue testified that he does not believe that Lee Harvey Oswald was the same man that visited the Consulate on September 27 and 28, 1963. With respect to allegations made by Elena Garro de Paz that she saw Azcue and Oswald at one of the Durans' parties, Azcue completely denied them. Finally, Azcue testified that he informed the Foreign Minister Commandante Pinero, after the assassination, of the events that took place in the Cuban Consulate in Mexico City. The Cuban government and Azcue both assert that no written reports were prepared in response to Azcue's oral report to the Foreign Ministry.