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Info FROM: MEXICO CITY  
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1226, DECEMBER 3, NOON  
PRIORITY  
SECRET  
ROGER CHANNEL  
FOR ALEXIS JOHNSON

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**Special Handling**

DURING EVENING DECEMBER 2 NICARAGUAN OFFICIAL [WHELOCK] WAS PERMITTED BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES TO SEE AND TALK WITH ALVARADO FOR THE FIRST TIME. CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE IN PRESENCE OF TWO MEXICAN POLICE OFFICERS. [WHELOCK] SAYS THAT ALVARADO WENT BACK TO HIS ORIGINAL STORY OF HAVING WITNESSED PAY-OFF TO OSWALD IN CUBAN CONSULATE HERE. ALVARADO CLAIMS HIS STATEMENT TO MEXICAN AUTHORITIES WAS MADE UNDER DURESS AFTER FORTY-EIGHT HOURS OF CONTINUOUS INTERROGATION; HE ALSO CLAIMS MEXICAN OFFICERS THREATENED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IF HE DID NOT SIGN STATEMENT.

EARLIER ON DECEMBER 2 MEXICAN POLICE HAD TURNED ALVARADO OVER TO MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES. IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES HAVE AGREED WITH [WHELOCK] THAT ALVARADO WILL BE RETURNED TO NICARAGUA TONIGHT OR TOMORROW, ACCOMPANIED BY [WHELOCK].

ALTHOUGH MEXICANS CLAIM THAT ALVARADO WAS TREATED "GENTLY," SINCE NO US OFFICIAL WAS PRESENT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER THERE IS BASIS FOR ALVARADO'S CLAIM OF DURESS.

AS REPORTED EARLIER ALVARADO'S STORY IMPRESSED US HERE BECAUSE OF WEALTH OF DETAIL. I DID NOT IN THE BEGINNING KNOW THAT ALVARADO HAD DEFINITELY FIXED DATE OF PASSAGE OF MONEY TO OSWALD AS SEPTEMBER 18 AND WAS ASSUMING THAT ALVARADO'S STORY WAS CONSISTENT WITH OUR DATA ON OSWALD'S ENTRY IN AND EXIT FROM MEXICO. AFTER WE LEARNED ALVARADO HAD PINPOINTED SEPTEMBER 18 WE AT FIRST ONLY KNEW THAT THE FBI HAD DEFINITELY PLACED OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS ON SEPTEMBER 17. STILL LATER WE WERE INFORMED BY KEENAN OF WASHINGTON THAT OSWALD HAD WITHDRAWN BOOKS FROM NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC

(JFK) 12/1/97  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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173-10006

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-2- 1226, DECEMBER 3, NOON FROM MEXICO CITY.

LIBRARY ON SEPTEMBER 19. SINCE ALVARADO ALLEGEDLY STUCK TO THE SEPTEMBER 18 DATE DURING MEXICAN INTERROGATION UP TO THE TIME HE CHANGED HIS STORY AND SINCE WE CANNOT PLACE OSWALD ON EASTERN AIRLINES FLIGHT FROM AND TO NEW ORLEANS BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 17 AND 19 THERE IS ONE APPARENT FLAW IN ALVARADO'S STORY.

A SECOND APPARENT FLAW, ALREADY MENTIONED, IS ALVARADO'S INSISTENCE THAT HE TELEPHONED AMERICAN EMBASSY FOUR TIMES ON SEPTEMBER 20 AND DAYS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING. ACCORDING TO WHEELOCK ALVARADO CURRENTLY CLAIMS HE MADE FOUR TELEPHONE CALLS TO EMBASSY EXTENSION 181 USING NAME OF JORGE KYNAUT (PHONETIC), AND WAS EACH TIME REBUFFED BY A "WOMAN." THIS IS THE NUMBER OF THE EMBASSY SECURITY OFFICER TO WHICH ALVARADO WAS REFERRED WHEN HE TELEPHONED THE EMBASSY ON NOVEMBER 25. HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN THE TEXTENSION NUMBER FROM THE NOVEMBER 25 CALL. WE ARE CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THIS FACET BUT EARLIER, MORE GENERAL INQUIRY PRODUCED NEGATIVE RESULTS.

NEVERTHELESS THERE IS SUFFICIENT POSSIBILITY OF TRUTH IN THE PART OF ALVARADO'S STORY ABOUT HAVING SEEN MONEY PASSED TO OSWALD TO

WARRANT CONTINUED INVESTIGATION OF ALVARADO EITHER IN THE US OR IN NICARAGUA. WHEELOCK SAYS THAT NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT IS AGREEABLE TO ALVARADO'S INTERROGATION IN NICARAGUA BY US OFFICIALS. I THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT FBI AND CIA CONSIDER SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO MANAGUA FOR INTERROGATION PURPOSES. PERHAPS A POLYGRAPH EXPERT SHOULD ALSO BE SENT.

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