

Date 6/9/64

Mr. OREST PENA, owner of the Habana Bar, 117 Decatur Street, New Orleans, appeared at the New Orleans Office with his attorney, JOHN D. TAMBERELLA, whose address is 219 Carondelet, Suite 408. Mr. OREST PENA, through his attorney, stated he would be happy to respond to questions put to him.

Mr. PENA advised that sometime prior to the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY, perhaps five or six months prior thereto, or possibly as few as two or three months prior thereto, when he was at his bar, his bartender, EVARISTO RODRIGUEZ, came to where he was seated and spoke to him. As best PENA could recall, EVARISTO RODRIGUEZ told him that a customer wanted a lemonade, which PENA claims they do not normally serve at the Habana Bar. PENA claims he told EVARISTO to fix the lemonade with water, lemon, ice and sugar and to charge the customer 25¢.

In response to inquiry, PENA said he did not personally observe the person who ordered the lemonade or the person or persons who had accompanied the individual who had ordered the lemonade. He did believe that the person who ordered the lemonade and the person or person accompanying him were either at the bar or at a table near the bar. Hence, he could not at this time or at any time say whether or not the person who ordered the lemonade or the person or persons accompanying the latter were identical with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. OREST PENA then explained he does not recall exactly where he was in the bar at the time EVARISTO RODRIGUEZ came to him to inquire about the lemonade. He does recall, however, that after EVARISTO RODRIGUEZ had prepared and delivered the lemonade that he heard either the party who had ordered it or the person or persons with that party complain that the price was too much. He does not now recall whether the complaint was in regard to the lemonade or possibly a tequila that was allegedly ordered by the same customers. He did state, however, that he thinks EVARISTO RODRIGUEZ came to him and told him these persons were complaining about the price.

OREST PENA then stated that he has no other personal knowledge about this incident and he reiterated that he would not be able to recall the person who ordered

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On 6/9/64 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # 100-16601by SA's WARREN C. DE BRUEYS and /dmk Date dictated 6/9/64  
ERNEST C. WALL, JR.

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the lemonade or the person or persons who accompanied the latter if he were ever to see them again.

OREST PENA specifically stated he never told anyone, including CARLOS BRINGUIER, that OSWALD had been in the Habana Bar with a Mexican prior to the assassination of President KENNEDY. He also said he never heard his brother, RUPERTO PENA, say that OSWALD had been in the bar with a Mexican. He also stated he had no information that the FBI was ever looking for a Mexican who had patronized his bar. He stated the only thing he did recall regarding a Mexican was that on one occasion two Latins who were in his bar, had asked him why his bongo drums were chained to a post in the bar. PENA claimed he told them that if he did not chain them someone would steal them. PENA claims that these two men made comments to the effect they were surprised that in a democratic country such as this it was necessary to chain the bongos. PENA said he then inquired where they came from and they allegedly said they were from Mexico. PENA said he then became angry and told them that a person could not even leave his car and get a drink in Mexico without someone stealing the four wheels from the car. PENA claims the Mexicans got angry and left. He stated, however, that this incident had no connection with the individuals who were in his bar, ordered lemonade and had later complained about the price they were charged.

PENA does not recall specifically when it was that these two persons who claimed they were from Mexico were in his bar. He said it could have been sometime last year (1963). He said that several days after these two persons were in the bar, his brother, RUPERTO PENA, had come to him and said that the same two men who had given OREST PENA some trouble had come back to the bar on another occasion. PENA explained, however, that here again there was no connection between these two persons and the person or persons who had ordered a lemonade, as previously described. He also said that his bartender, EVARISTO RODRIGUEZ, was not in the bar when these two

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persons who were from Mexico were there. Also he never mentioned to anyone that the FBI was interested or inquiring about either one or both of these two persons nor had he made any such statement to anyone.

OREST PENA then remarked he wished to state that his brother, RUPERTO PENA, was not present in the Habana Bar when the party ordered the lemonade as previously set forth.

OREST PENA was then shown a photograph depicting LEE HARVEY OSWALD distributing handbills in front of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans which photograph reflects other persons standing in the same area. OREST PENA studied this photograph and advised that the only person whom he recognized in the photograph was LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He then stated the only reason he was able to recognize OSWALD was because he had seen OSWALD's picture in the news media so often after the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY.

Inquiry was made of OREST PENA concerning the dates that he was out of the country in 1963 and he advised that while he did not recall the dates he did recall that he was in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic on vacation in 1963 and that he would check his passport for the exact dates.

In response to inquiry PENA furnished the following background and descriptive data of himself:

Name	OREST PENA, also known as Orestes Farnicio Pena-Alfonso (PENA explained that when he was naturalized his name was legally changed from Orestes Farnicio Pena-Alfonso to Orest Pena)
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Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'8"
Weight	140 pounds
Citizenship	Naturalized in New York City approximately in 1954 or 1955
Date of Birth	8/15/23
Place of Birth	Colon, Matanzas, Cuba
Marital Status	Single, twice married and divorced. First wife was from the Dominican Republic and they were married in New York. Second wife, MERCEDES PAEZ, a Nicaraguan National, whom he divorced in Mexico and who he believes is still living in New Orleans.
Brothers	RUPERTO PENA, 117 Decatur Street, New Orleans, Louisiana ANDRES PENA, who owns the Las Americas Bar, 407 Decatur Street, where he resides. He is allegedly a U. S. citizen.