

Assistant Superintendent

P R E S E N T :

N. D. Collaer

Examining Inspector,
Acting Stenographer &
Spanish Interpreter
Witness
Witness

Patrol Inspector

Taylor C. Carpenter
Ramon Rico

The alien, being first duly sworn, testifies as follows in the Spanish language in the presence of Ramon Rico.

Office of District Director
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Examining Inspector:

- Q. What is your name, age, occupation and place of residence? A. Maria Estrada de Lopez, 49 years of age, domestic, and I reside at 4500 Alberta Str., El Paso, Texas.
- Q. Where were you born, of what country are you a citizen and of what race are you? A. I was born at Valle de San Nicolas, Chihuahua, Mexico; am a citizen of Mexico and of the Mexican race.
- Q. Are you married? A. Yes, I married Juan Lopez in 1907 here in El Paso, Texas
- Q. What children have you? A. Maria Estrada de Romero, in Los Angeles; Jose Estrada (32) who was killed last night and two who died.
- Q. Where was Juan Lopez born and of what country is he a citizen? A. He was born near Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, and is a citizen of Mexico also.
- Q. Last night about 9.40 o'clock I went to your son Jose's house with several other officers and there found you taking care of some children whom you said were your son's. On the floor of the house were drops of blood and there was blood in the bath tub. When questioned relative to that blood and as to where the persons who left that blood there went, you stated that you knew nothing about that; that you had just arrived at that house and had seen nobody. It now appears from the testimony of Eulalia Gasca and Ramon Rico that you well knew who the parties were who had left those blood spots in that house. Do you wish to testify frankly now? A. I want to tell you all about. I was in the house about two hours when Ramon and Fidel came to the house. Ramon Rico (this man) came first and he said (through the blood on his face) I think they have killed Jose and that one of the officers had been shot and then Carlota and Eulalia wanted me to go with them to see about Jose but I would not go. They started to go to Jose when Fidel came in and he had blood in his eyes and all over his face. Ramon gave me some alcohol to wash his face with but I did not open the bottle. I took Fidel in the bath room and washed his face and then I got a mop (trapo) which I wet and tried to clean up the blood which was on the floor.
- Q. How long before the officers came in was it that you cleaned up that blood? A. It was a considerable time before the officers came as I recall. A car came there which had two women and a man in it and the man told me that he was sorry about Jose getting killed. They apparently knew something about the house for they knew where the whiskey was and took eight bottles (quarts) away with them. I did not know those Americans but their car must have been there close when you officers came.
- Q. What did Ramon say at the time he came home as to who fired the shots at the officers? A. I don't remember anything that he said except that Jose had been killed he thought and that an officer had been shot and that he was hurt.
- Q. When did you last see your son Jose Estrada alive? A. I last saw him about 15 or 20 minutes after I arrived at the house. He came home and ate one tortilla and then got two rifles from somewhere, I don't know from where, and he left. He told me that he would return right away.

- Q. Why did you not tell me the truth about who came to the house of Jose ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ when I asked you ~~it~~ last night? A. Well, I just told you those lies - I have no other reason.
- Q. Have you anything further to say at this time? A. I think that is all.
- Q. How long has Jose been smuggling liquor? A. I think about four years.
- Q. And Fidel? A. Since he began living in Jose's house - about one year now.
- Q. And Ramon Rico? A. I think he has been working with Jose for about 3 months now.

Ramon Rich, being advised that he need not testify if he does not wish to do so and that the statements which he might make might be used against him, testifies as follows:

Examining Inspector:

- Q. You have heard the statement of Maria Estrada de Lopez, what, if anything, have you to say with respect to same? A. It is the truth.
- Q. Did Jose Estrada have those rifles in the Studebaker car when he took you, Fidel and the liquor from Juarez to a point near Cordova Island on the Mexican side of the river? A. No.
- Q. Have you anything further to say at this time? A. No, sir, that is all I have to say.

Maria E. Lopez

Maria Estrada de Lopez

Ramon Rico

Ramon Rico

Irvin H. Cone

Irvin H. Cone - Witness

Taylor C. Carpenter

Taylor C. Carpenter - Witness

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct transcript of the record of investigation of this matter.

Nick D. Collier
 Nick D. Collier
 Assistant Superintendent
 Border Patrol