

P R E S E N T :
N. D. Collaer

Assistant Superintendent

Jack Thomas

Ramon Rico

Irvin H. Cone

Examining Officer,
Acting Stenographer &
Spanish Interpreter
Witness
Witness
Witness

Senior Patrol Inspector

Senior Patrol Inspector

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

Examining Inspector:

- Q. What is your name, age, occupation and place of residence? A. Eulalia Casca, 20 years of age, I live with Ramon Casca but we are not married and I live in the house of Jose Estrada and his woman Carlota Montes, at No. 3210 Manzana Str., El Paso, Texas.
- Q. Where were you born and of what country are you now a citizen? A. I was born at La Chita, New Mexico, and I am a citizen of the United States and of the Mexican race. I was raised here in El Paso for my mother Dolores Carrejo brought me here when I was a baby. My mother is now dead. My father Ponciano Casca is also dead.
- Q. Do you know this man (indicating Ramon Rico)? A. Yes, that is Ramon Rico, the man with whom I am living as I told you.
- Q. Did you see this man yesterday? A. Yes, some time yesterday afternoon, I don't remember the hour very well, he told me he was going to Juarez to bring in some liquor that night. Ramon, Fidel Ortega, and Jose Estrada work in the liquor business together and cross liquor every few days.
- Q. Who went to Juarez with Ramon Rico? A. Fidel Ortega went with him. Fidel lives with us. He is not married.
- Q. Did you see Fidel and Ramon when they left the house? A. Yes, they left in a taxi for Juarez.
- Q. Where was Jose Estrada then? A. He was working.
- Q. Did you see Jose Estrada yesterday evening? A. Yes, when he got out of the job he came home but he did not eat. He did not change his clothes and he told Carlota that he was going to Juarez to see if he could find Ramon Rico and Fidel Ortega in order that they might bring the liquor across early.
- Q. In what car did he go to Juarez? A. He left in a Studebaker which he purchases from Leo Montes.
- Q. Is Leo Montes related to ~~Eulalia~~ Carlota Montes? A. I don't know.
- Q. When did you next see Ramon Rico and Fidel Ortega? A. I did not see them again until in the night (yesterday) when Ramon Rico came into the back door and I asked, "what happened" and he said "we had a fight and I am injured" His face was full of blood. Carlota Montes, Jose's wife, then asked him, "Was Jose killed" and he said, "I don't know whether he is dead or merely injured. An officer was also shot".
- Q. Did Ramon tell you who had fired the shot at the officer? A. No, he told me nothing about that.
- Q. What happened then? A. Carlota and I ran toward the door to see about Jose. Ramon had told us that the car ran into another on Magoffin Str. in front of the drug store and we started down there. We ran until we reached the 71 taxi stand and there we got a taxi and then went down to see Jose and the wreck. As we

left the house Fidel Ortega was entering. We left almost immediately after Ramon came in.

- Q. Did Ramon at that time tell you anything about Fidel Ortega having been in the fight? A. No, he said nothing about Fidel.
- Q. Did you talk to Fidel when you saw him coming? A. Yes, we asked him where Jose was but he did not answer and he entered the house.
- Q. Then what did you do? A. Carlota Montes, when she looked at Jose Estrada, said that she wanted to talk to Attorney Charlie Owens, Jose's attorney. I don't know what for. Then we tried to find out where we could get in touch with Owens and Carlota had the taxi driver take us to the house of Jim Kale (phonetic) on Piedras Str. and then Carlota asked Jim Kale to telephone to Attorney Owens and Mrs. Kale telephoned but they did not answer. We then dismissed the taxi and then Jim Kale brought us back to the wreck and there I got out of the car and while an officer was talking to Jim Kale I went back to the house afoot and got there to tell Jose's mother about his death when I saw you at the house.
- Q. Who, aside from yourself and Carlota were in the house when Ramon Rice and Fidel Ortega came home last night? A. The mother of Jose was also there. Her name is Maria Lopez. She is a widow. She is married to that old man who is in the other room, Juan Lopez.
- Q. When Jose Estrada came home, what preparations, if any, did he make before going to Juarez? A. What I have told you.
- Q. Did he return to the house after going to Juarez? A. Yes, after dark.
- Q. What did he do at the house then? A. He came for the rifles.
- Q. Are these the rifles which he came to get (indicating one 30-30 Winchester and one 38-36 Winchester)? A. Yes, those are the ones.
- Note: Rifles marked "WDC - 12/28/33" for purposes of identification.
- Q. How do you know those are the same rifles? A. I have seen them before. Jose got those rifles from under the bed. He got those two rifles and a shot-gun from under the bed.
- Q. Did he take all three with him? A. No, he took the rifles only. He had sent the shot-gun out to have it cleaned about five days ago and it was brought back and had not been used. Jose only took two rifles with him.
- Q. Why then did you say that he also took the shot-gun out from under the bed? A. I made a mistake, he only took the two rifles.
- Q. Had anybody fired that shot-gun to your knowledge since it was cleaned? A. No, it had not been fired.
- Q. Do you know who cleaned it? A. No.
- Q. Were there any other firearms under the bed? A. Yes, Jose Estrada had a shot-gun and another rifle.
- Q. Is this the shot-gun and is this the rifle (indicating 12 gauge Winchester shot-gun and 7 mm Mouser rifle)? A. Yes, sir.
- Q. What about the pistols of Ramon, Fidel and Jose? A. They did not have pistols. I have never seen a pistol in the hands of either of them.
- Q. How long have you lived in that house with Ramon Rice? A. For about 5 months.
- Q. During that time how has Ramon made his living? A. About three months ago I knew that he was smuggling and prior to that time he did not work but I did not know what he was doing.
- Q. Did either Ramon Rice or Fidel Ortega have anything in their hands when they reached the house? A. No, sir. I did not see anything.
- Q. Has Fidel Ortega lived with Jose Estrada all the time that you have been living there? A. Yes, he has been there all the time. He has lived there for one year.
- Q. Does Maria Lopez come to visit Jose Estrada and Carlota Montes much? A. Not very often.
- Q. Does she know Ramon and Fidel? A. Yes, she knows them.
- Q. What interest does Mr. Kale have in Jose? A. He has made, I think, two bonds for

- Jose when he was caught with liquor. The last one was when Jose was caught last year. Jose was to have been sentenced in January - next month. For that reason Mr. Kale came to Jose's house quite frequently.
- Q. What does Mr. Kale know about the liquor business of Jose Estrada? A. He knows all about the liquor transactions of Jose and Ramon and Fidel because he comes to the house and gets liquor.
- Q. For what purpose? A. To drink. He is quite a drinker. I have never seen him take any liquor away from the house.
- Q. Did you tell Chief Patrol Inspector Horsley that Fidel had a small scrape in his hands when he arrived? A. I did not see it but Maria Lopez told me that he had one in his hands when he arrived.
- Q. Did you see any dolls in the hands of either Ramon or Fidel when they reached the house? A. No.
- Q. What did you see when you arrived at the automobile where you went to see Jose? A. I saw Jose, dead, and the liquor in the back of the car and the windows broken in the car.
- Q. Did you see any rifles or any other kinds of arms? A. No.
- Q. Then, if I understand you correctly, you and Carlota left Maria Lopez there in the house with Ramon Rico and Fidel Ortega? A. Yes, when we left Ramon was standing in the front room when we left and Fidel was just arriving.
- Q. Just what did Jose say, if anything, when he came for the rifles? A. He said that he came for the rifles. I asked him if he had eaten and he said no that he would not eat until all three were there.
- Q. Has Ruben Rico ever worked with Jose Estrada, his brother Ramon Rico and Fidel Ortega? A. Not to my knowledge. He does not come to the house often and he was not in the house yesterday.
- Q. Now about the shot-gun. There are several small holes in the hat which was worn by the officer who was killed last night. Those holes were not made by bullets from a rifle. Someone, this hat shows, was doubtless shooting a shot-gun? A. I am sure that Jose took only the rifles.

Ramon Rico, being again cautioned that he need not say anything unless he wishes to and that whatever he might say may be used against him, testifies as follows:

Examining inspector addressing Ramon Rico:

- Q. You have heard the statement of your concubine Eulalia Gascas, what, if anything, have you to say with respect to same? A. Nothing, it is the truth.
- Q. Did you tell her prior to leaving for Juarez yesterday afternoon that you and Fidel were going to bring some liquor across last night? A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Who cleaned up the blood in the house of Jose Estrada after you and Fidel had arrived there? A. Maria Lopez.
- Q. Did she assist either you or Fidel? A. She washed Fidel's head in the bath room.
- Q. Does she know Fidel? A. Yes, very well.
- Q. How do you explain that the hat of the officer had many holes in it indicating that it was doubtless struck with buck-shot? A. I don't know. I am sure that Jose had but one shot-gun and that was left under the bed in the house.
- Q. Have you anything further to say at this time? A. No, nothing.

Eulalia Gascas
Ramon Rico
Ramon Rico

H. C. Horsley
H. C. Horsley - Witness

Irvin H. Cone
Irvin H. Cone - Witness

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

Assistant Sup't
[Signature]