

Roberto: I've mailed you two copies of my letter about
you new book. To this address. Let me know if
at least one of them arrived.

JM



4 November 1991

P.O. Box 12560
St. Petersburg, FL 33733 813/867-1166

Dear Robert,

Excuse the red. I'm trying to use up and old ribbon.

Herewith a sampling of the pages from the three note-
books that were mysteriously resurrected from the ancient
past. I'm not sure how many other similar pages there
might be, but I'll keep a sharp lookout.

The survival of the Mexican novel, 2/3 done in high
style, was miraculou_s. We expect publication about this
ti_e next year. It covers a three-day taurine festival
in an imaginary Mexican city, Toledo, in the spring of
1961. Callesero, Procuna, L_oranzo Garza, Gaston Santos
and my two imaginary mano-a-manos, Leal and Gomez. Much
history, much Mexico, some bullfighting. A long one.

I was both surprised and pleased when toy told me over
the phone that you were thinking of reviving that idea
you had years ago of using the many photographs and
remembrances of the times we'd worked together to present
an illustrated book about my work habits, as you had
observed them. I must tell you two things: (1). I_om not
the one to guess whether such an effort would be worth
your while. I have my doubts, but then, I have doubts
about everything, and sometikes it pays. (2). If you do
decide to go ahead, I'd help your costs by sending you
\$5,000 as a proof of the high value I place upon the work
you did on Iberia. But I'd send the money only when I
had assurance that you had a text, the necessary photos,
and an assured publisher. (I don't remember Iberia with
such high affection that I want to waste my dough.)

I shall be flying to Hawaii/^{twice}(for Pearl Harbor Day)
and in late January, I think it is, for Australia. I
could lay over day coming or going on either of the e
trips, stopping in Los Angeles. Or you could proposition
the Princess Lines to take you aboard their skip when we
sail Australia-New Hebrides-Fiji-Australia. J hn Kings
at U.T. Austin could hekp arrange, if the Company were
attentive.

Related by Covenant to The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Jm

4 November 1991

Dear Robert,

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Selected notebook sheets for Vavra

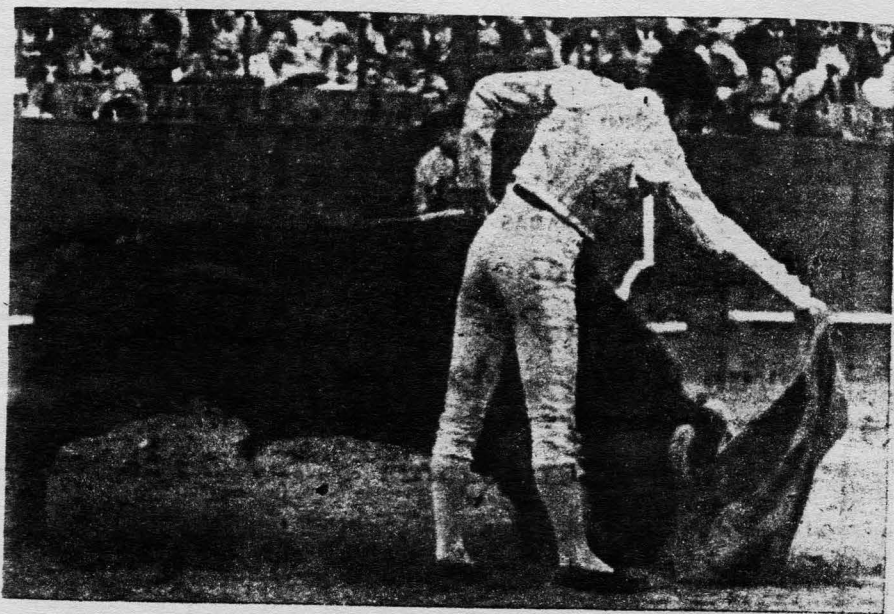
Numbers bottom right
first page

Note: These are hasty xeroxes of pages in a cheap Triana schoolboy's notebook. Number 7 shows what can be done when care is taken. And a real camera could do even better.

1. The opening double spread of a six-spread report on the Miura afternoon in Seville, 1961. The photograph could not be reproduced in anything I might do with this corrida. (Page 6 shows how I plan to use this material in a notebook on the Mexico novel. No plans yet for publication)
2. The second double spread of Limeno giving a fine pass.
3. The third double spread of Jose Julio, awkward but brave.
4. Fermin ¹¹Mirillo's bull number 4.
5. A one-age note of Jose Julio's second bull, Number 6 of the afternoon.
6. This shows how I hope to use the data in Number 1 as a single sheet in in the tentative book about the riting of Mexico. The pen and ink segments will be quite legible when done with a camera and perhaps re-inforcing in pencil if needed.
7. Limeno's second bull, the page xeroxed with great care and lighting by John Kings to show what can be done even without a camera. But the notes you and I made in the corral are so perceptive that I think I may want to redo the page like Number 6, using the data on Page 8, which goes with it. I retype our notes:

71. 585 est. 534. Jose Limeno. Vorrall. Castano. Bery big handsome bull. Best looking of ~~the~~ lot. Seems to avoid all trouble from all quarters. Pairs with 121 for feeding and occasionally with 64. Very tranquil in the corrals and indifferent to men. Probably fine bull. My choice because he will probably do very well with the horses.
8. An afternoon's work with you at one of the corrals. Real bulls upper panel. Your and my construction of a reasonable string for my imaginary corrida in Mexico.
9. Notes taken on the day you and John led me to the Concha ranch. You took that fine shot of John and ~~me~~ walking away, along the toad marked on this map.
10. Did you ever meet the great English traitor (says Rebecca West) Cabito took the shot at a corrida in Madrid. I can't use a photo and would not care to spread dear Angus before the public. He fled to Spain a few days before the feds were to pick him up, took out Spanish citizenship and never denied that he was a fascist at heart...and a damned fine writer about bulls. I hope he reads the book John and I are doing.

7-72. 550 est. 499. Jose Limeno. Coral. Black. Definitely the complete boss of the coral. Very duck and nervous. Can move every other bull around as he wishes except 55. Determined to fight with 121 and if he cannot get to him will settle for a brawl with 92. If neither available will fight with 64. Very sexy. Strong. Dangerous in the speed of his thrusts.



También triunfó «Limeño», que cortó la oreja a su primero, de embestida corta. Sus pases por alto fueron de gran lucimiento. Y se arrestó temerariamente en naturales, de pecho y rechazos, que culminaron en una estocada de efecto fulminante. El público pidió la oreja, que el presidente, benévolo, otorgó, dando la vuelta al ruedo. El toro, en cambio, oyó pitos —si los toros muertos los oyen— en el arrastre.

54. Murillo. 530. Short. Cardeno salpicado. Remato al burladero. Sale suelto from capes. Flojo and sure to be difficult. Cabeza tirando cara arriba al final. Varas first, recargando very well at horse. Knocked him down. Suelto en los petazos and ran way from all attempts at suerte. Segundo recarga el toro cabeza arriba. Māe quites impossible. Banderillas very poor. Bull far from quiet. Fena (no tiene defecto except lak of fore Pics had lowered his head). But the bull ke his head high during most of the muleta work. 29 muletazos. Estocado entera, in sitio and con efecto.

Vayra. Much heavier than we had expected. Less suave than we had hoped for. Much power, and in general behaved just about as we had expected. This was the more unusual in that we did not have too much to go on.

4 64 Murillo 530

Unquiet and nervous. Voluntary on capes.

Wid but allowed some reserves. Circuit between suertes.

Bone ripter + down night away. Shows in reserve but toro when in. Chucuelinas not done. Fell down on quick turn. July 2 over. I thought he needed me more.

Fence in muleta too high had good find spec. Bull kept very

Very cautious in muleta. Paper always in approach to left. Fall down in set up twist of muleta. Deserved on right hand and chopped upward. Slow on crossing. Near smooth. High fine fault.

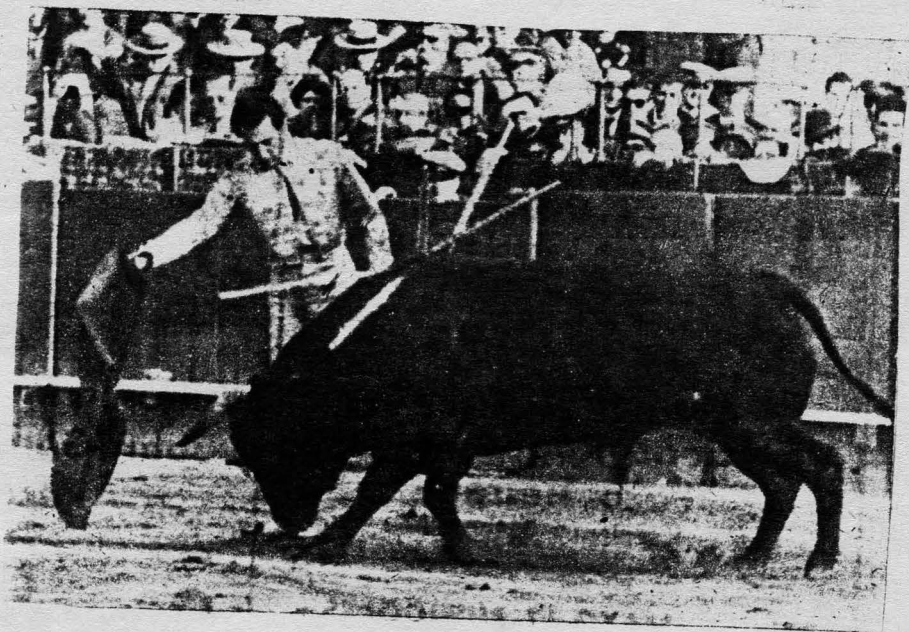
1/2 common in bull. MULETA.

Open,
is
quen-
oso
for

s bull
rue. He
long

The Miura Bulls
Eighth Fight Seville
1961

55. 510 est. 484. Fermin Murillo. Coral. Black brother but much thinner than other. Less active. Very composed but ready to defend himself against brother. But when man appeared, shied off quickly. Not as aggressive as 72, but others respected him and moved off. When showdown came with 72, 55 drove him off repeatedly and firmly. Fierce in sparring but nervous in waiting. Weak rear legs and a tendency to favor right rear one, which may be quite weak.



Fermin Murillo tuvo, acaso, el lote más soso. Por eso, a pesar de que el muchacho estuvo bien toda la tarde, porfiando con garbo, no obtuvo un triunfo completo. A su primero le hizo faena con quietud a base de pases con la derecha, pases por alto, naturales y de pecho, acabando con él de una media muy perpendicular.

Murillo. 484. Short. Negro bragado. Did not rematar.
ave in running of capes, but very weak in hind legs. Short
lancess de cape. First pic slid off his back, bull fell
wn. Slow in capote. Second pic charged from long distance
i fell while tryin for horse, then fell again. First pair
baderills one half to right side only. Bull sin fuerza on
cond. Third bull defendd sharply. Muleta. (Matador should
ve worked with great care. Taken him through slowly. Corta.)
tal of 25 muletazos. Media estocda.

vra. Felt the bull came out exactly as predicted and behav-
as we thought it would while studying him. Legs weak as
redicted.

1. 55 MURILLO 484

EXTRA SLOW ALERT MERICOS

EXTRA SLOW
... ..
... ..

V&A'S Heavy work. Bull attentive.
... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..

BANDERILLAS Poor attitude. Slow
... ..
... ..
... ..

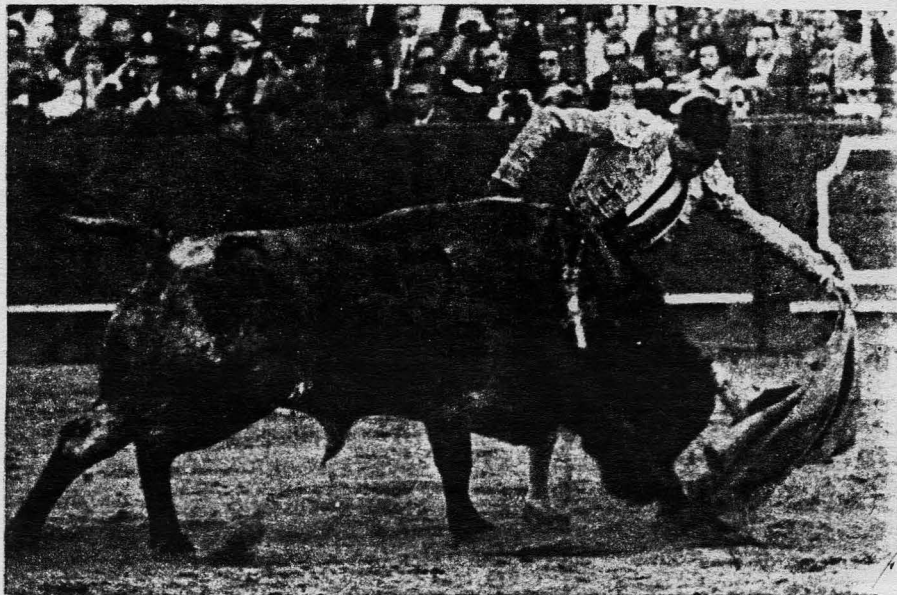
MULETA A few passes kept low
... ..
... ..
... ..

AUEROS Short & well. Applauded

open,
s
quen-
oso
for

s bull
rue. He
long

505 est. 474. Jose Julio. Corral. Cardeno dark. Bob
es this bull very much. Says it will be very suave in
arena. He is a complete outcast in the corral, and every
er bull feels free to fight him. He runs off and hides
easy in opposite corner. 72 charges him at every chance
seems to goad him into fighting. Fine configuration
not noticeably nervous about men.



El portugués José Julio tuvo ver-
daderamente su tarde. Tiene valor y
tiene una gran alegría. Tiene arte
también. De la conjugación de estos
tres factores resultó su doble ac-
tuación valerosa, que al público gus-
tó mucho. Hizo uso abundante de la
capa, que maneja muy bien, como
estilista, en los dos toros. A los dos
los banderilleó exponiendo mucho.
Su primero era muy pegajoso y

rápido. Se revolvía peligrosamente.
Pero José Julio lo embarcó bien y
lo dominó, dándolo todo. La faena
toda tuvo emoción. Y por eso, a pe-
sar de que el toro no caía —incluso
teniendo el estoque dentro en su
totalidad—, cuando dobló, el público
le otorgó la oreja.

Julio. 474. Short. Cardeno liston entrepelado en estano. lida ñegre. Sin rematar. Shies from cape to left. Busado los lazes. Flojo. En vras con head up. Pic slipped and he horse hard. Fell coming away from horse. Pitos. Quite ile running. Very effective. Second vna. Muy corto, but ok well. Chicuelinas and rematando. First pair al toro rgo, but to the left. Second pair to the right. Third air bull was defending himself, but good. Al quiebro, with toward toril. Short faena without forcing bull too on low pases. Two ayudazos por alto in which bull rt on right side. On ayudado por alto and bull came arther on that side. Gave three derechazos and bull orter on each one. Many disarmas. 3/4 estocão. Bull peleando hasta el ultimo.

2. 92 Julio 474

(Good. Good sword. Torero. Dangerous.

Some repetition long, very swift in turning on cape. Entered on feet (see

5

Strong vna. Chicuelina slow & even. Very high on bases. But strong. Lanza close Chicuelina.

Good front pair by heels. Bull good. Good delayed crowd pair. Bull willing and fast at quiebre.

2 close derechazos. Bull looked maybe 3 may come derechazo a man well looked. 4 more + heels. 6 toreros. Pista. Pista good. Pistas volantes. Very loose. Pistas. M. seen. Silent to see. 5 disarmas. Torero used to see. Fights volantes.

OREJA. Apparent for sale.

Wavre. Through tears, said that his bull had come out exactly as planned and gave a great lidia which seemed almost too good to be true. Suave and powerful to the end. President did not warad an ear, but the Gov. of Beville did for public relations.

Open, is quenososo for

3 bull true. He long

72. Limeno. 499. Short. Negro bragado. Enstred sin rematar. Hesitant bluffing at opote. Not too strong. Embistewell. Took vara easily and left with head high. Stopped short. Took five attacks at horse. Banderillas regular, but bull very defensive with head held high. (Take a few low passes and enter to kill.) Limeno gave 25 passes, mostly muletazos. Passes de pecho won the ear for him, but valient in the total faena with bull helping because of his power, but never suave. 3/4 estovado in good position. On feeling the steel, the bull ran to the tables and acted very maso.

Vavra. Followed our speculations to a T. Came out maso and very dangerous. Limeno fought him roughly but with courage. Every detail we spotted in corrals was substantiated in the ring.

3. 72 LIMENO 499

Slow - Easy Comedido. Moves on capis

Bronco. Fast legs. Very choppy.

Refused vara twice. Very high. In case
very slow, choppy, very good, high.
Position quite. Refused 3rd & 4th +
Refused 4th vara. Very bronco.

Swift + moved in last row. Refused
against card + third time. Bronco.
From 3rd & 4th from. Low barrier.

3 fine rights in tables. Vara close
highly and right, but never curved.
Time early. Moves in long cuts for a
moment, but in close by side. Great
in table etc. Bull high + lower.
In position

Looked good. OKTA

open,
s
quen-
oso
for

s bull
rue. He
long

64. 530 est. 530. Fermin Murillo. Corral. Cardeno ligh
keeps aloof from al others by choice, but is constantly
being irritated by the black brothers. Very placid and
well adapted to the corrals. Good configuration and lool
both suave and powerful.

Hizo faena del mismo
tipo a su segundo, aunque sin cuajar
del todo por falta de empuje enemigo.
Despachó de una entera y dio la
vuelta al ruedo.

* * *

121. 490 est. 480. Jose Julio. Corral. Spotted black and white. Constantly tormented by 72. Seems to find reassurance by staying close to 71, with whom he is congenial. A long, swayback bull with a powerful head that may give the matadors trouble.

5 121 Julio 480

Good entrance. Slow escape.
Bulls will run. Then very active.

Set good new pavements in middle.
From here on to horses.

Refused toros & toros. Very much
running. Toros side suspect horse
+ then killed some of. 4 fine Chiclelin.
Refused toros then a great toro. Then
after difficulty a para toro. Very
strong at end.

Julio took palos. Great bar music.
Running fast raised. 3rd pair
at toros does standing run.

Very slow start to pass. Then almost
above change in long walk (Swallow
slated when in with loud high
whistling.) Previous change. Toros side.
Then falls in work. Toros does short
pass. Music resumed twice. Inset entry.
LIVE DESCRIBED.

PITOS FOR BULL ULETA.

The Miura Bulls
Eighth Fight Seville
1961

In the Holding Corrals

^{Kilos}
55. 510 pounds our estimate. In corrals. Like brothers black but thinner than others. Less active. Very composed but ready to defend self against brother. But when man appeared, shied off quickly. Not as aggressive as 72, but others respected him and moved off. When showdown came with 72, 55 drove him off repeatedly and firmly. Fierce in sparring but nervous in aiting. Weak rear legs and a tendency to favor tight rear one, which may be quite weak.

In the Fight

^{Kilos}
55. 484 pounds. Fermin Murillo. Short. Negro bragado. Did not rematar. Suave in running of capes but very weak in hind legs. Short in lances de capa. Slow in capote. Second pic charged from long distance and fell while trying for horse, then fell again. First pair of banerillas one half to right side only. Bull sin fuerza on second. Third pair defended sharply. Muleta (matador should have worked with great care. Taken him through slowly. Corta.) Total of twenty-five muletazos! Media estocada.

Vavra

Felt the bull came out exactly as predicted and behaved as we thought he would while studying him. Legs weak as we predicted.

1. 55 MURILLO 484

ESPECTACULO: Sección ALBERT MURILLO

ESPECTACULO: MURILLO, but nothing special.

VALORAS: Strong man. Bull standing. I could not see fight. Camera in middle. Several more bull fights. But in every of bull fight. Very 2 allowed. Discussion. but bull fight

BANERILLAS: Poor attack. Slow + reluctant. no bull fight. Bull removed horses. Fall down on second cape work.

MULETA: A few passes. kept head high. Ventrals. Long course from wall. Bull slow + slow work. Bull on slow + slow work. Fine muleta work.

ALABRUS: Best to bull. Capricious.

En el último de la tarde se invirtieron algo los términos. «Limeño» no fue pitado, no porque hubiera sido injusto; pero el toro sí fue aplaudido, en razón a su bravura y su nobleza. La faena fue buena, desde luego, con pases de mando y elegancia.

85

71. Limeno. 534. Short. Castano retinto. Salida izquierda no rematar and sale suelto de la capote. Can do nothing. Varas very fine, recarga, empujo, embiste. Knocked horse over three times, twice without taking vara. Came out head high and rushing through the capes. Baderillas not well done because the bull was defending itself valiantly and was willing to run at anything. Muleta (toreable from either side, long charge, but can also be fought close up.) 47 muletazos, none of special emotion but all with courage. Linkage faulty but some work very close in indeed. 1/2 estocado and long time dying.

Vavra. Muy noble, suave, sin peligro ninguno. Very powerful in the varas. Probably the best bull of the entire feria. A miserable mistake that he did not have his ears cut. Taxidermist chose him as the best bull for mounting. Came out exactly as we had predicted in the corrals.

La corrida lució una gran presentación, pasando de los quinientos

kilos casi todos. Baste decir que el último, con 534, fue el mayor de la feria. Quizá, además, fue el mejor toro de la feria. Y fue una lástima que «Limeño», en vena de triunfo como estuvo en su primero, no obtuviera de la ocasión el inmenso partido que cabía obtenerle.

Did I pick
'em?

Maybe the
best bull I've
ever seen.

71. 585 est. 534. Jose Limeno. Corral. Castano. Very big handsome bull. Best looking of bst formed of lot. Seems to avoid all challenges from 72 and 55 by moving of: Avoids all trouble from all quarters. Pairs with 121 for feeding and occasionally with 64. Very tranquil in the corrals and indifferent to men. Probably a fine bull. My choice because he will probably do very well with the horses.

LN THE FIGHT

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LN THE FIGHT

6. 71 LIMENO 534

FINE ENTRANCE TO LEFT. Very quick on capes. Chopped in lower

3 Varas on the side running
5 fine " to center. Bull feet up
but unstable.

Came to varas. Extremely powerful.
No quite on side lower down.
no quite. Slow to capes. then
lower down on a great charge.
Varas. Home bar again. Bull
swore. Quick take was free, but limited

Price fine. Bull valiant. Became
missed. No good allowed. Darkness
approaching.

Very slow to muleta. Then well
defended kept near in cloth. but from
not much good. Fine in the good on
natural. no damage. More natural.
LUDIC. LISA LENO. Barroca. More power.
MEDIC. ESTOCADA.

Good bull but will lounge.

ADDITIONAL

Vavra. Muy noble, suave, sin peligor ninguno. Very powerful, in the varas. Probably the best bull of the entire feria. A miserable mistake that he did not have his ears out. Taxidermist chose him as the best bull for mounting. Came out exactly as we had predicted in the corrals.

Leading Spanish critic: Baste decir, que el último, con 534, fue el mayor de la feria. Quiza, además, fue el mejor toro ~~afixado~~ de la feria. (The last bull was not only the biggest of the feria but also the finest of the entire feria.)

Michener: Did I pick 'em? Maybe the best bull I've ever seen.



26

29

32

33

40

45

500

510

460

440

530

500

26. ~~BRAU...~~

32. MARICON

40. ~~NOBLE~~

29. BRONCO HUNTER

33. KILLER

45. BRONCO



~~500~~
460

470

430

440

~~470~~
500

505

26. BRAU... HUNTER

33. KILLER

45. BRONCO

26. HUNTER

34. MARICON

48. NOBLE

CUNCHA SIERRA

La GLORIA

35 Km. S+W of Sumbilla. Rt. Bank of Guadalquivir.

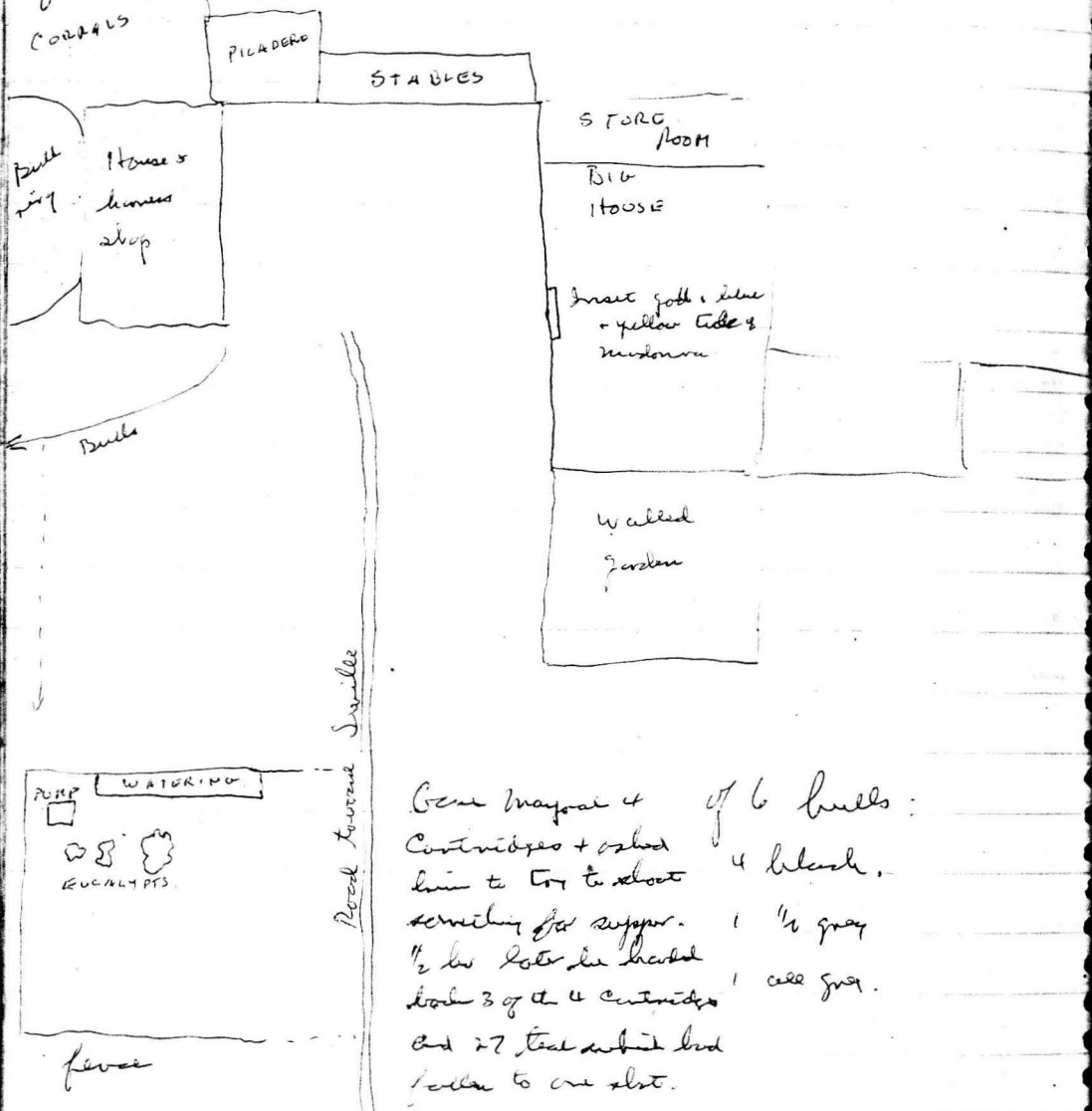
14 MARISHA - brackish water.

Birds: Swallows, egrets, kites, vultures, falcons, owls, storks.

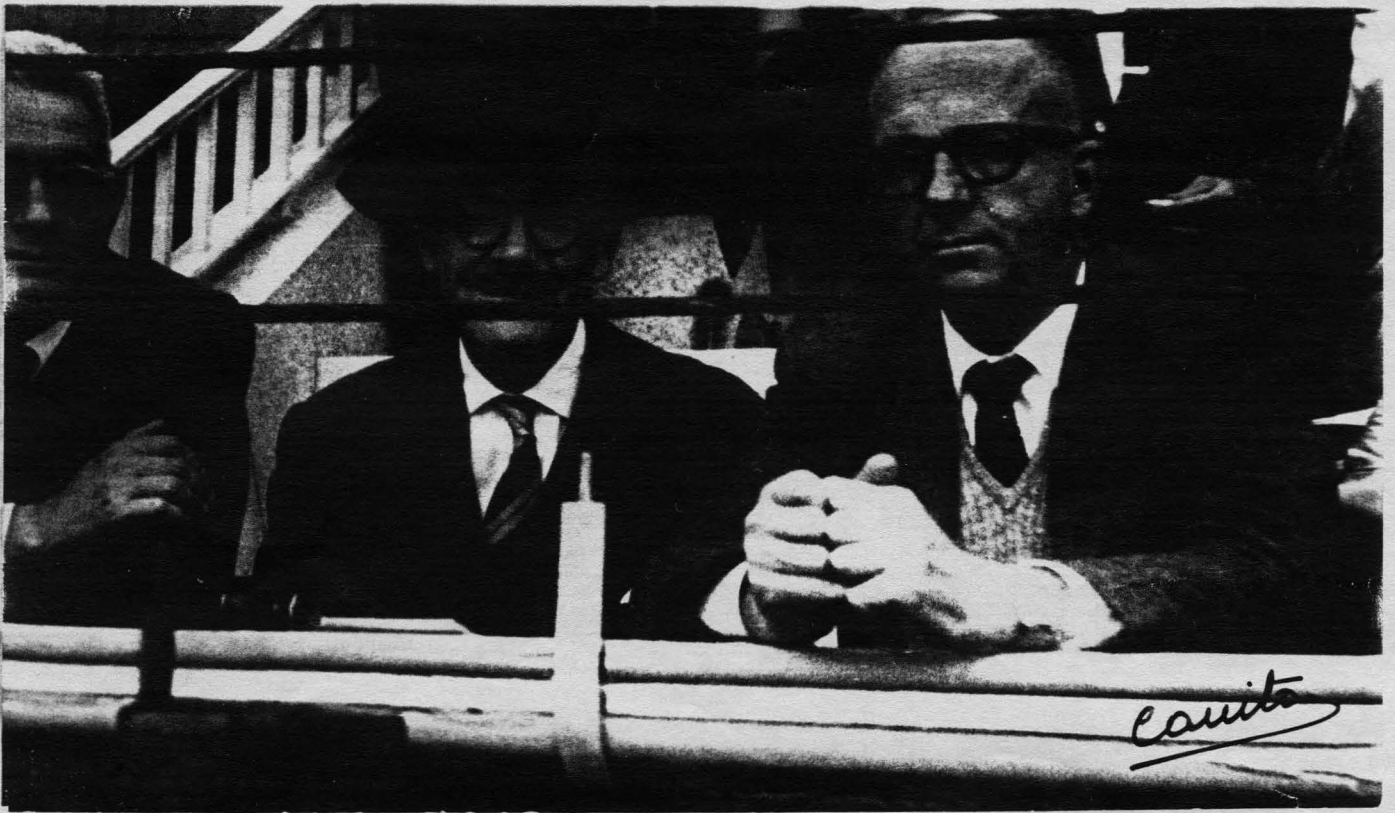
Animals: frogs, snakes, dogs (galgo - grey shippets) wild boar, deer

trees: eucalyptus, cork oak alone.

flowers: daisies, thistle, blue, lavender, mustard.



Gene Mayoral 4 of 6 bulls:
 Contreras + ashed 4 black.
 him to top to select something for supper. 1 1/2 grey
 1/2 his later she checked 1 all grey.
 took 3 of the 4 Contreras
 and 27 that selected had
 fallen to one shot.



↑
ANGUS MACNAB - ENGLISHMAN.
FRIEND & CONFIDANT LORD
HAW HAW. CORRESPONDENT
WITH HIM IN LATIN. TRAITOR
REBECCA WEST.

