

Former FBI Agent's Story

A Tip That Oswald Would Be Killed

Kansas City, Mo.

A former FBI agent who was in Dallas when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated says the FBI later received an anonymous telephone tip that Lee Harvey Oswald would be killed.

In a copyright story in Sunday's Kansas City Star, James Hosty Jr. said the FBI didn't know whether to believe the caller, who predicted Oswald would die when he was moved between jails.

But Dallas police, informed of the threat, ignored it, he said.

"When the police insisted on going ahead with the move we (FBI agents) were ordered to stay completely out of the area. We wanted no part of it, under the circumstances," he said.

Oswald was killed by Jack Ruby as he was being transferred from one jail to another two days after Kennedy was killed.

Hosty said later Sunday that he still has not dropped several "bombshells" that would shed new light on the assassination.

"I don't want to comment," the former agent said. "Until the House Assassination Committee's full report is in next month, I don't want to say anything." Even then, he said, whether he talks will depend on what the committee says in the report.

Hosty was assigned to investigate Oswald before the assassination, because Oswald had a Russian-born wife, had lived in the Soviet Union and had worked with a

group sympathetic to the Castro government in Cuba. Hosty said he found nothing to indicate Oswald posed a treat to Kennedy.

"There was no hint of violence in his background and, if anything, he showed a tendency toward pacifism," Hosty said.

That investigation was criticized by the Warren Commission, when it was probing the assassination, and Hosty was suspended for a month without pay by then-FBI director J. Edgar Hoover. He was then transferred to Kansas City, where he worked until his retirement last month. More recently, the House Assassination Committee concluded that the investigation of Oswald was "properly conducted."

Associated Press