

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

RECEIVED

MAY 12 1977

CRIMINAL DIVISION
May 6, 1977

Followed 5-12-77

Mr. Ray L. Hunt
2900 First National Bank Building
Dallas, Texas 75202

19 MAY 1977

Dear Mr. Hunt:

Your letter of April 25th, with enclosures, raises specific questions, some of which would require that the FBI express an opinion or draw a conclusion based on investigative results in matters relating to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

While I can certainly empathize with your primary concern for the protection of your father's reputation, I regret that I must refrain from providing the answers you seek. To do otherwise would contravene a long-standing policy of this Bureau not to speculate or draw conclusions on current or concluded investigations. I regret this response is necessary, since I do appreciate your expressed ire at certain media efforts suggesting Mr. H. L. Hunt's involvement in President Kennedy's assassination. I trust you will understand the necessity for my position in this matter.

You undoubtedly are aware of the fact that the substantial results of FBI investigation were furnished to the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy (Warren Commission) and those documents are in the public domain.

While your review of that material might be an expedient means of obtaining some of the information you seek, you may also wish to consider the submission of a specific, formal request to the FBI under the Freedom of Information Act. It must be pointed out, however, that such a request could entail a certain delay owing to the backlog of requests already on file.

129-11		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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CIV. RIGHTS DIV.			

File



Mr. Ray L. Hunt

I trust this information will be of some assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,


Clarence M. Kelley
Director

① - Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division (Enclosures - 3)

RAY L. HUNT
2900 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202

April 25, 1977

The Honorable Clarence Kelly
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
9th and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Kelly:

In recent days, my father, the late H. L. Hunt, has been the subject of inaccurate charges made by individuals commenting upon the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. This letter requests information from you so that we may accurately respond to those charges.

As you may be aware, on February 6, 1977, an article appeared in The Dallas Morning News stating that the FBI was investigating a letter, xeroxed many times, to a "Mr. Hunt" dated November 8, 1963 from Lee Harvey Oswald shortly before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The News reported that the text of the letter was:

"Dear Mr. Hunt,

I would like information concerning my position.

I am asking only for information. I am suggesting that we discuss the matter fully before any steps are taken by me or anyone else.

Thank you,

Lee Harvey Oswald".

Subsequently, national magazines and many newspapers carried articles which stated that the FBI was investigating the letter and that the letter had been sent to my father, the late H. L. Hunt. FBI agents have recently interviewed at least one Hunt Oil Company employee concerning this matter.

EXP. 1110
APR 27 1977

The Honorable Clarence Kelly
April 25, 1977
Page 2

On April 1, 1977, further allegations were made by the Dutch journalist, Willem Oltmans, against my father based upon data he says he received from George DeMohrenschildt. Once again, charges and reports were made that the FBI was investigating this matter and these charges and reports received much attention from the national media.

In both instances, we have denied and vigorously protested these allegations. Copies of our statements released to the press concerning both the purported letter from Lee Harvey Oswald (March 4, 1977) and the later charges by Mr. Oltmans (April 1, 1977) are attached.

One of the characteristics of our social system is that unsubstantiated charges can be hurled pell-mell by anyone and given great national attention by the press. The principle of "freedom of the press" is one which I completely respect and wholeheartedly endorse, but if media commentary is based upon statements and information which are known to be false or provided with reckless disregard for their truth, great harm can be done.

Great harm has been done to my father's memory in recent days, and in an effort to correct what I believe are flat misstatements of fact, I'm taking the liberty of writing you to ask for a reply to the questions below which, if received, will be in our possession and subject to release publicly as needed to refute charges implying that my father had ever engaged in the activities referenced below or was under investigation by the FBI because of these charges. Specifically, I would appreciate very much your answering the following questions:

1. Has the FBI investigation of the alleged letter from Oswald to a "Mr. Hunt" determined whether or not the letter was in fact an authentic letter from Oswald?
2. Was the alleged letter addressed to Mr. H. L. Hunt? Alternatively, does the agency have any reason to believe that the letter was meant to be delivered to H. L. Hunt?
3. Did the so-called Oswald letter bear credible evidence that it was addressed to a "Mr. Hunt" in Dallas, Texas? Alternatively, could it have been addressed to a "Mr. Hunt" in some other locale such as Florida, Mexico, Cuba, etc.?
4. Does the FBI have any credible evidence to support a belief that H. L. Hunt was in any way connected with the assassination of President Kennedy?

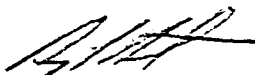
The Honorable Clarence Kelly
April 25, 1977
Page 3

5. Have any previous investigations by the Bureau brought forth any credible evidence that H. L. Hunt ever knew or was ever associated with George DeMohrenschildt?

I am sure that you will understand why I hope to receive a response from you concerning these questions in the near future. If my father were alive today, he could and would readily defend himself against the malevolent allegations leveled by a person who I feel may very well have committed perjury before a Committee of the United States House of Representatives.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. I look forward to your response in the near future.

Sincerely,



Ray L. Hunt
Executor
Estate of H. L. Hunt

RLH:ss
Attachments

Hunt Oil Company
2900 First National Bank Building
Dallas, Texas 75202

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 1977

Contact: James C. Oberwetter
Office No. 741-3561
Residence 328-3365

A spokesman for Hunt Oil Company categorically denies that the late H.L. Hunt ever knew, ever communicated with or ever received communication from Lee Harvey Oswald.

A speculative news report in a local Dallas newspaper had indicated that Oswald allegedly sent a letter to an unidentified "Mr. Hunt" in early November, 1963. An inference was made in that story that the "Mr. Hunt" referred to in that letter may have been H.L. Hunt.

Now, on the basis of that speculative story, local broadcasts and at least one national news magazine have continued to report that H.L. Hunt may have received such a letter.

It is highly prejudicial to assume with absolutely no supportive evidence that the "Mr. Hunt" in the alleged letter refers to the late H.L. Hunt. Such unsubstantiated slurs against a man who is deceased and can no longer defend himself is shameful.

A public or private apology has been requested from the newspaper which printed the story initially.

ESTATE OF H. L. HUNT

1401 ELM STREET
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 1977

Contact: James C. Oberwetter
Office: 741-3561
Residence: 328-3365
Spokesman for Estate of
H.L. Hunt

To the best of our knowledge, H.L. Hunt never met Mr. De Mohrenschildt nor had any business dealings with him whatsoever.

Any allegations by William Oltmans that H.L. Hunt was involved with De Mohrenschildt or Oswald in any way are figments of a strained and distorted imagination.

It is ludicrous to state that H.L. Hunt had anything to do with the assassination of President Kennedy.

Mrs. H.L. Hunt (living) denies categorically that De Mohrenschildt was ever in the Hunt home for any reason whatsoever.

To claim that De Mohrenschildt was a friend of H.L. Hunt's is totally false. Records of the Hunt family bear evidence to this fact. The De Mohrenschildt name never appeared on any of these records.

It has been publicly reported that De Mohrenschildt had a history of mental problems. If, in fact, De Mohrenschildt ever claimed to have had any relationship with H.L. Hunt, those claims must be viewed accordingly.

It is easy to generate publicity over the grave of a dead man who is no longer able to defend himself. Mr. Oltmans seems expert at it. The family of H.L. Hunt refuses to be savaged by Oltmans who attempts to discredit the memory of H.L. Hunt by vicious innuendo and unsubstantiated charges.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Raymond S. Calamaro
Office of Legislative Affairs

FROM : Robert L. Keuch
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

SUBJECT: John F. Kennedy Assassination Matter

DATE: 2/15/77

RLK:mal

129-11 aw3

In response to your memorandum of February 10, 1977, this is to inform you that the only information which we feel is necessary to obtain from IRS is the document referred to on pages 7 and 8 of the February 9th memorandum.

Should IRS conclude that a written request is necessary we are prepared to submit such a request over the signature of the Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division.

cc: Mr. Baron

✓ Records



5010-110

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Robert L. Keuch
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

FROM : Raymond S. Calamaro
Office of Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT: John F. Kennedy Assassination Matter

DATE: February 10, 1977

Thank you very much for the very helpful memorandum from Alfred Hantman dated February 9, 1977.

One question remains: Is there any information on this matter which still resides with IRS but which should be obtained by the Bureau to conduct a thorough investigation? In particular, I note that a written request can be filed under 26 U.S.C. 6103(i)(2) for the divulgence of additional information.

Does this need to be pursued?


R.S.C.

cc: F. Baron



5010-110

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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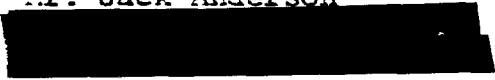
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

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DEPT. OF JUSTICE

February 1, 1977
RECEIVED

Mr. Jack Anderson



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FEB 2 1977

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Reference is made to your article entitled, "U.S., Cuba Had Germ Warfare Plans" which appeared in the Washington Post on January 17, 1977, and to your article entitled, "Mystery Witness in JFK Inquiry" which appeared in the January 19, 1977, issue of the Washington Post. These articles make reference to the investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The January 17, 1977, article reported: "The FBI never allowed the (Warren) commission access to its files . . ." and ". . . that the FBI had in its files at least 69 reports on the pre-assassination activities of Lee Harvey Oswald. Only 46 of these were summarized for the Warren Commission; the remaining 23 were held back." This is erroneous. By letter dated May 4, 1964, the FBI furnished the Honorable J. Lee Rankin a description of the 69 documents pertaining to the pre-assassination activities of Lee Harvey Oswald. This letter appears in the Warren Commission report as Commission Exhibit 834. Additionally, as set out in the May 6, 1964, testimony of Alan H. Belmont, former Assistant to the Director, FBI, before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Mr. Belmont in response to a question posed by Samuel A. Stern, Assistant Counsel, volunteered that the "Oswald" file was available to the Commission. This file had in fact been reviewed in its entirety by Mr. Stern on May 4, 1964.

- ① - Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legislative Affairs

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	

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Mr. Jack Anderson

The January 19, 1977, article states in part, that:
". . . the late J. Edgar Hoover deliberately misled the Warren Commission" about information received from Sylvia Odio.

The fact of the matter is that by letter dated September 21, 1964, the Warren Commission was advised by the FBI that the three individuals who visited Sylvia Odio's apartment had been identified and that investigation concerning this matter was continuing. This allegation was fully investigated by the FBI and the results of the subsequent investigation including the interviews of the individuals named in the September 21, 1964, letter were furnished to the Warren Commission by letter dated November 9, 1964.

Additionally, the January 19, 1977, article refers to the alleged threat made by the late Joseph Milteer, ". . . which was taped by an FBI informant," ". . . who turned the tape over to the FBI the next day."

The fact is this information was received and recorded by an informant of a city police department, which department furnished a transcript of the alleged threat to the local office of the FBI. This information was subsequently furnished by the FBI to Secret Service Headquarters ten days prior to the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

This letter is prepared not in righteous indignation but rather in the hope that your readers may have available the true facts readily supported by public source material.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

Mr. William G. Hundley

November 27, 1963

Henry E. Petersen

An individual called today giving his name as [redacted] and
purporting to give information on Jack Ruby, killer of Lee Oswald,
he stated he is in the Union, apparently the Teamsters Union. He
is motivated by his affection and grief for the President. He relates
that Ruby grew up on the West Side of Chicago; that there is a tie-in
between Ruby in Dallas and [redacted] in Miami. This tie-in he
alleges is through shylocking and girls. He also relates that Ruby
grew up with [redacted] of Chicago.

File
MPW

William G. Hurdley, Chief
Organized Crime and Racketeering Section
Criminal Division

December 2, 1963

Gerald Shar

Jack Ruby

In the Department of Justice file on [REDACTED], [REDACTED] 7C 2 *
a list of members of the Waste Trade Industry of Chicago, as of
July 10, 1958, was made available. It should be noted that Jack
Ruby was Secretary of the Waste Material Handlers Union until some-
time about 1940. Included on the list is:

S & R Hair Company, 1509 S. Sangamon Street, owner Jack Rubin,
TA 9-5775. This is noted since Jack Ruby allegedly was Vice-Presi-
dent of S & R Inc., which owned the Carousel Club.

File
HPW