

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 11/29/63

FROM : Mr. McGowan

- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Martindale
- 1 - Mr. Kelly

SUBJECT: JACK RUBY
LEE HARVEY OSWALD - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

Terrell

With reference to the statement furnished by George Robert Phenix, a newsman associated with KRLD-TV in Dallas, that on the morning of November 24, 1963, he was admitted to the basement of the Dallas Police station without identifying himself and that no one had questioned him regarding his identity or his business there, Inspector Malley furnished the following information at 12:55 a. m., November 29, 1963.

Phenix was reinterviewed on November 28, 1963, and he has changed information furnished by him, which was reported correctly as he initially furnished it, so as to alter its significance.

When reinterviewed yesterday, Phenix stated that he actually went to the Dallas Police Department at 9:10 a. m. on the morning of November 24, 1963, approximately two hours and thirty-five minutes before the attempt to move Oswald was made. At that time, no unusual security measures had been established or set up by the Dallas Police Department.

Phenix stated that he went to the Police Department in a television mobile unit which was clearly marked and recognized as such. He was dropped in the basement of the Dallas Police Department by the driver of this unit where he set up his location and equipment across from the elevator.

Although he was not checked for identification on his arrival at the Police Department, after he had set up his equipment, uniformed officers did come through and check people in the area. One officer came up to him, looked he and his equipment over, apparently recognized him as being a local television man and went on without specifically questioning him or asking for his identification.

With reference to his previous statement that to his knowledge no other newsmen were asked their identifications, Phenix when reinterviewed November 28, 1963, stated that he had been extremely busy setting up his equipment and specifically doesn't know whether other newsmen and press representatives were required to show identification or not.

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Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
Re: JACK RUBY
LEE HARVEY OSWALD - VICTIM

In this connection, Malley stated that the Dallas Office had also interviewed Robert J. Huffaker, 4700 East Side Avenue, Apt. 115, Dallas, Texas, who is also a newsman affiliated with KLRD-TV in Dallas.

Huffaker stated that on November 24, 1963, he went to the Dallas Police Department at approximately 8 a.m. No one checked him as he entered the Police Department but he took an elevator up to the third floor of police headquarters and upon reaching the third floor was immediately challenged and required to show his identification.

Approximately one half hour before the attempt was made to move Oswald, Huffaker went to the basement of police headquarters. Upon arriving in the basement, he was immediately required to produce identification.

Huffaker stated that Sargeant Patrick Dean and Jim Putnam of the Dallas Police Department were checking newsmen in the area for their identifications and he commented that he was particularly impressed with the manner in which they were checking all persons there.

Malley stated that copies of the 302's on the reinterview of Phenix and the interview of Huffaker will be flown into Washington with other material November 29, 1963.

Malley subsequently stated that on the basis of the limited number of interviews conducted to date, no specific information has been developed to show there was any widespread breakdown in the security procedures established by the Dallas Police Department, requiring individuals to identify themselves. It of course is recognized that such procedures apparently broke down insofar as Ruby is concerned, but no substantial investigation has yet been conducted to prove or disprove whether there was any widespread breakdown in the security procedures established by the Dallas Police Department.

ACTION:

None. For information.