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 OSWALD 5-30
 NIGHT 13

DALLAS (UPI) -- LEE HARVEY OSWALD DELIVERED A "THREATENING LETTER" TO THE FBI SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, BUT THE FBI DESTROYED THE NOTE AND HAS KEPT QUIET ABOUT IT FOR THE PAST 12 YEARS, THE DALLAS TIMES HERALD REPORTED IN ITS SUNDAY EDITIONS.

THE LETTER DID NOT MENTION KENNEDY, THE PAPER SAID IN A COPYRIGHTED, FRONT-PAGE STORY CARRYING THE BYLINE OF TIMES-HERALD PUBLISHER TOM JOHNSON. BUT IT SAID THE FBI HAS BEGUN A "FULL INTERNAL INQUIRY INTO THE OSWALD VISIT AND THE POSSIBLE CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THE NOTE AND THE FAILURE TO REPORT ITS EXISTENCE."

ACCORDING TO THE PAPER THE NOTE WAS INTENDED TO STOP FBI AGENTS FROM FURTHER QUESTIONING OF OSWALD'S WIFE, MARINA. MRS. OSWALD WAS BEING VISITED BY FBI AGENT JAMES P. HOSTY JR., IN CONNECTION WITH THE BUREAU'S INVESTIGATION OF HER HUSBAND PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT NOV. 22, 1963.

NEITHER THE NOTE NOR THE VISIT RESULTED IN OSWALD'S BEING PLACED UNDER ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE, THE PAPER SAID.

IN THE STORY, BASED PARTLY ON CONVERSATIONS WITH FBI DIRECTOR CLARENCE M. KELLEY AND "SOURCES WITHIN THE FBI," THE TIMES HERALD SAID "APPARENTLY THOSE PERSONNEL IN THE DALLAS FBI OFFICES AT THE TIME WHO KNEW OF OSWALD'S VISIT AND HIS LETTER, HAVE KEPT THE INCIDENT SECRET FOR ALMOST 12 YEARS."

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

THE SOURCE SAID THE NOTE WAS DESTROYED AFTER THE ASSASSINATION. HE REFUSED TO SAY WHO DID AWAY WITH THE NOTE.

"IN MY JUDGMENT, THIS INFORMATION COMING OUT WILL BLOW THE LID OFF THE WHOLE DAMN CASE," THE PAPER QUOTED ITS SOURCE AS SAYING. "THAT WAS A REAL SCREWUP, I GUESS. WE DID NOT TELL THE POLICE OR OTHER PROTECTIVE AGENCIES ABOUT IT ... IT SEEMED ROUTINE AT THE TIME OF THE VISIT.

"BITS AND THREATENING MAIL COME IN ALL THE TIME. THE LETTER DIDN'T THREATEN KENNEDY."

THE PAPER QUOTED A SOURCE AS SAYING THEN FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER PROBABLY WAS NOT AWARE OF THE VISIT OR THE LETTER AND NEITHER WAS THE DALLAS AGENT IN CHARGE J. GORDON SHANKLIN.

"THEY WOULD HAVE GONE THROUGH THE ROOF," A PERSON STATIONED AT THE FBI OFFICE DURING THE ASSASSINATION, WAS QUOTED AS SAYING. "I DIDN'T ACTUALLY SEE THE NOTE MYSELF, BUT I KNOW IT EXISTED. THERE WERE NO MORE THAN A VERY FEW, AT MOST FIVE OR SIX, WHO SAW THE LETTER."

IN TWO INTERVIEWS WITH THE PAPER SHANKLIN DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF THE LETTER AND THE VISIT.

THE PAPER QUOTED HOSTY, NOW IN THE FBI'S KANSAS CITY OFFICES, AS SAYING "I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY ANYTHING ON THAT."

HOSTY'S SUPERVISOR IN 1963, KEN HOVE, COULD NOT BE REACHED AT HIS OFFICES IN SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

THE NEWSPAPER SAID THE FBI'S INVESTIGATION WAS PROMPTED "AS A RESULT OF QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE TIMES HERALD DURING A JULY 6, 1975 MEETING WITH KELLEY IN THE WASHINGTON FBI HEADQUARTERS. THE STORY SAID THE NEWSPAPER HAD BEEN CHECKING THE INCIDENT FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

KELLEY, IN A STATEMENT PREPARED FOR THE TIMES HERALD, SAID "PRIOR TO THE CURRENT FBI INQUIRIES, THERE HAD BEEN NO INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS VISIT AND NOTE RECORDED IN FBI RECORDS, AND INQUIRIES WERE TO CORROBORATE THAT SHORTLY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION, THE NOTE IN QUESTION WAS DESTROYED."

"INQUIRIES ARE CONTINUING TO DETERMINE THE FULL FACTS CONCERNING THE HANDLING OF THIS LETTER," KELLEY SAID. THE FBI SAID IT WOULD HAVE NO FURTHER COMMENT UNTIL "ALL INQUIRIES HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED AND THE MATTER CONSIDERED BY THE DEPARTMENT."

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