

Dallas, Texas  
September 2, 1975

I, James W. Bookhout, being duly sworn, hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to Assistant Director Harold N. Bassett and Special Agent in Charge of the Tampa Office, Francis M. Mullen, Jr. I was asked by Mr. Bassett for my knowledge that Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly personally visited the Dallas Office sometime prior to the assassination of President Kennedy and had left a note, apparently for SA Hosty.

I have no knowledge regarding Oswald having personally delivered a threatening note to the FBI addressed to Special Agent James P. Hosty, with possibly one reservation which I will explain as follows:

Sometime during the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy, I passed Special Agent Robert Gemberling in the office and greeted him and asked how it was coming. He remarked that everything was fine and his only current problem was to decide the propriety of putting a certain Oswald letter into the assassination report. He said that it was not so much his problem as it was that of Special Agent Hosty. At the mention of Hosty's name, I immediately cut the conversation off and told him that if he had any decision to make as to what went into the assassination report, that he should take it up with his proper supervisor and the Special Agent in Charge. This action on my part was prompted by the fact that Hosty had already received newspaper publicity in connection with the



assassination investigation, and I certainly did not want to have any knowledge of any of Hosty's problems and did not want to get involved with them. With regards to the possible date of this conversation, I cannot pinpoint the date other than to say it must have been close to some period an assassination report was due. I don't know that this particular Oswald letter is the same Oswald letter that is now in question. I did not see the letter and do not know the contents of it.

I recall that on November 22, 1963, I was present with SA Hosty during an interview of Lee Harvey Oswald at the Dallas Police Department. It is my recollection as previously testified before the Warren Commission that Oswald upon hearing Hosty's name when he introduced himself to him, immediately showed a hostile attitude toward Hosty and accused him of being the Agent who had been harassing his wife. At no time during this interview did Oswald mention that he had visited the Dallas FBI Office and left a note for SA Hosty.

Subsequent to the initial interview with Oswald, I was involved in another interview with him, Ruth Paine, and Marina Oswald, and at no time was there ever mentioned anything about Oswald having visited the Dallas FBI Office and leaving a note for SA Hosty.

  
SA James W. Bookhout

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
on 9/2/75, at Dallas, Texas.

Harold N. Burnett  
Asst. Dir. F.B.I.

Francis M. Mulder  
SAC - FBI