

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Dallas Chief, FBI Deny Files Story

Dallas Police Chief Charles Batchelor and Gordon Shanklin, agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said Friday it was untrue that the FBI recently "cleaned out" the files on the investigation by Dallas police of the assassination of President John Kennedy.

Their comments came in response to a story by Ray Zauber of the Oak Cliff Tribune. Zauber's story, printed in Friday afternoon's Star-Telegram, said:

"An unimpeachable source told the Oak Cliff Tribune today that FBI agents, some from Dallas and others evidently from Washington, moved in quietly a few days ago and systematically removed every piece of evidence from the Dallas files."

No Truth

Shanklin said, "There's not one scintilla of truth in it (Zauber's story)."

Batchelor said, "It is completely untrue."

Zauber, however, when informed of Batchelor's comment, replied, "He gave me just the opposite statement."

The issue seemed to hinge a

great deal on the definition of files and on when evidence in the case was in fact removed from the Dallas police station.

Batchelor said no federal representatives have been to Dallas asking for evidence since 1964.

Zauber contends his source told him he saw a receipt from the FBI for material removed in September.

Oswald Clothes

Batchelor said the department has indeed surrendered all physical evidence except the shirt and pants taken from the body of Lee Harvey Oswald after the accused assassin died at Parkland Hospital after being shot by Jack Ruby.

But the chief explained that all the police reports involving the assassination are still in police files in their original form.

Batchelor said all physical evidence released to the federal government was either photographed or copied.

"There has been no one in here from any federal agency asking us for any material since 1964," Batchelor said.

"I'll tell you what might

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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"Ft. Worth
Star Telegram"
Ft. Worth, Texas

Date: 11/26/66

Edition:

Author:

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Jack L. Butler

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Being Investigated Dallas

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have started this thing. Four to six weeks ago, I got a call from an official of the Justice Department who advised me Congress had passed an act giving them the power of eminent domain over all evidence in this investigation.

"He wanted to know what we had left and I told him, but we haven't been called on for that (the pants and shirt.)"

Zauber said he planned to print a story Monday quoting Batchelor as saying, "We have made our information available to the FBI, Secret Service, Warren Commission and district attorney as it was needed."

He said he planned to lead the story with a sentence saying Batchelor "explained Friday that all Dallas evidence files on the Kennedy assassination have been removed from the identification bureau where such records are kept."

Zauber said he also planned to include in the story an observation that the Dallas officials (Batchelor and City Manager Scott McDonald) would not venture whether the FBI may be running down new leads in the case.

His planned story continued, "There are some Dallas police investigators who still contend that Oswald and Ruby were part of a conspiracy, even though there is no proof of such collusion at all."

Zauber said he himself has long believed there may have been a tie between Oswald and Ruby.