

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 11/29/66

FROM : A. Rosen *Ru*

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

ALLEGATION FORMER FBI AGENT PLACES
FLOWERS ON GRAVE OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Raupach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Morrell
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

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

Mr. Hayes Redmon at the White House telephonically advised Mr. DeLoach today that the President desired to be advised of the identity of the former FBI Agent who had allegedly placed flowers on the grave of Lee Harvey Oswald. No former Agent involved.

It is noted a United Press International release dated 11/26/66 at Fort Worth, Texas, commented on this, stating that flowers on Oswald's grave carried a card, "He has left all the world confused." This release stated Oswald's mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, said the yellow chrysanthemums were put on her son's grave Thursday, 11/24/66, by a former FBI man.

SAC Shanklin, Dallas, was contacted concerning this matter and the following information was made available: [redacted] Fort Worth, Texas, who requested his identity not be disclosed, advised Mrs. Oswald had called him on November 23, 1966, stating that flowers would be delivered that day with a typewritten note signed "Junior." She requested [redacted] to be on the lookout for the flowers. [redacted] advised the flowers were not delivered on the 23d; however, they were delivered on the 24th, Thanksgiving Day, and they did have a typewritten note attached which was signed "Junior," which note subsequently disappeared from the flowers. [redacted] also advised that the newspaper stories to the effect that 600 persons visited Oswald's grave were grossly exaggerated and he would estimate that the usual number of visitors for Thanksgiving Day did appear at the cemetery, approximately 100, and he had no knowledge of how many of these visited Oswald's grave. [redacted] advised the flowers had been delivered by Henry Goodgame, Fort Worth florist. Goodgame, on contact, advised he had received an order for the flowers to be delivered several days before Thanksgiving. He most reluctantly admitted that after learning that a press release out of California identified the sender as Harry Dean that the flowers had been ordered through a florist in Alhambra, California.

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Memo DeLoach from Rosen
Re: Assassination

Dallas ascertained through a newspaper contact in Dallas that the UPI in Los Angeles carried a story that Harry Dean, 38, Alhambra, California, had stated he was responsible for having flowers left on the grave of Lee Harvey Oswald. He stated he had a note typed by the florist to be attached to the flowers; that he left the flowers because he thought Oswald had nothing to do with the killing of President Kennedy. He also stated he was a former undercover man for the FBI and had used the code name "Junior."

Supervisor Neal McGinnis of Los Angeles advised the Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles Herald Examiner both carried stories on November 26, 1966, based on a UPI release from Fort Worth, Texas, to the effect that flowers had been left on Lee Harvey Oswald's grave and that a typewritten note had been attached to the flowers. The two papers had a statement indicating that according to Marguerite Oswald, the flowers had been sent by a former FBI Agent.

Supervisor McGinnis also advised that Dean had been the subject of numerous items of correspondence with the Bureau and had been interviewed on numerous occasions to try and persuade him to desist from claiming employment with the Bureau. The FBI Identification Division contains a record on Dean which reflects he enlisted in the armed services in 1945 and was absent without leave in 1946. In 1948 he was charged with the theft of a radio by the Windsor, Canada, Police Department. Disposition on this offense is not known. In 1956 he was charged in Michigan for using obscene language and was sentenced to ninety days.

Bureau files reflect a great deal of correspondence with Harry J. Dean, who did at one time in the early 1960's furnish information to the Chicago Office concerning the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. He was never an informant and was never encouraged in his activities. After he gratuitously furnished information a background check was made, at which time it was determined he was a former mental patient with a criminal record. He was told in June of 1961 that his assistance was not desired. The Los Angeles Office, since November of 1963, has periodically found it necessary to contact Dean and request that he desist from making claims concerning past relationship with the Bureau.

In 1965 we received information he was considering writing a book regarding his work with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and that it would concern the work he did for the FBI in Chicago for a year when he was a member of the Committee. The most recent correspondence concerning Dean was a reply to Senator George Murphy (R. - Calif.)

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on October 18, 1966, wherein Murphy asked for any information we might have which would assist in replying to a letter from Dean.

ACTION:

It is recommended the attached letter be sent to Mr. Marvin Watson furnishing the true facts concerning the allegation that a former FBI Agent had placed flowers on Oswald's grave.

W

R

*OK that the President
certainly must read
with ~~spirit~~ attention
every day. It had been
a former FBI Agent that
would be ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~most~~ ^{most} ~~interesting~~ ^{interesting} ~~one~~ ^{one}
could do.*

R