

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

House panel to call two FBI agents to testify on destroyed Oswald note

By HUGH AYNESWORTH and BOB DUDNEY Staff Writers

J. Gordon Shanklin, former special agent-in-charge of the Dallas FBI office, and James P. Hosty, an FBI agent who was once responsible for the investigation of Lee Harvey Oswald, will be called to testify before a House Judiciary subcommittee later this month in Washington.

The two will be asked to explain under oath their recollections concerning the destruction of a hand-written, threatening note left by Oswald about two weeks before President John F. Kennedy was killed here Nov. 22, 1963.

An aide to Rep. Don Edwards, D-Calif., chairman of the subcommittee investigating charges that the FBI withheld evidence from the Warren Commission in 1963 and 1964, said other FBI agents who had information about the note might also be called.

Alan Parker, chief counsel for the subcommittee, said he was not certain how many witnesses would eventually be called, but he said there was "a good possibility" that William Walker, the former FBI code clerk, would be a witness also.

Walker has told several media representatives—the Times Herald first—that he received a teletype message Nov. 17, 1963, five days before the assassination, that such an attempt might be made on Kennedy's life in Dallas. The FBI has denied that any such teletype was received and claims an internal investigation proved—to the bureau, at least—that Walker was either mistaken or was lying.

Hosty has refused to discuss the destruction of the Oswald note, though he testified in an internal FBI investigation that he destroyed it at the instruction of Shanklin about two hours after Oswald was killed Nov. 24, 1963.

Adams admitted that the note should never have been destroyed and that the Warren Commission should have been informed of its existence.

Not only were there inconsistencies in the facts surrounding the note and its destruction, but even the content was not solidly determined, said FBI spokesman Adams.

Adams verified what The Times Herald had already printed: that Mrs. Kaa Fenner, the newspaperwoman who received the note, said she recalled it as a bomb threat against the FBI and Dallas police officers "if you don't stop bothering my wife." Others, Adams said, recalled it as a threat against Agent Hosty, who had tried twice to interview Oswald.

Hosty told the FBI that its wording was: "If you have anything you want to learn about me, come talk to me directly. If you don't cease bothering my wife, I will take appropriate action and report this to proper authorities."

Still others in the Dallas office recalled it in other ways, generally as a threat against Hosty. Mrs. Fenner was the only one who recalled it as a bomb threat.

Shanklin has denied vehemently he knew anything about the note or ordered its destruction.

In a session last month, Deputy Associate Director James R. Adams reported on an in-house FBI investigation begun when The Times Herald informed the FBI of the note and its fate, which found several former and present FBI employees testifying to different "facts" in the case.

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

The Dallas Times Herald
Dallas, Texas

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Date 11/17/75

Author Kenneth P. Johnson

Title

Character

Classification

Submitting Office: Dallas

Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE
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cc - ADAMS