

FILE (67-5593)

10/13/64

SAC J. GORDON SHANKLIN

SA JAMES P. HOSTY, JR.
PERSONNEL MATTER

At approximately 8:00 PM, 10/12/64, SA WILL HAYDEN GRIFFIN advised me that he had had a conversation with

JAMES C. LEHRER, Reporter for the Dallas Times Herald and that LEHRER had advised him that he had a story which would be in the Dallas Times Herald of 10/13/64 concerning disciplinary action, including suspension, against SA JAMES P. HOSTY.

At 8:25 PM same date I called Assistant Director C. B. DE LOACH and advised him of the above information and told him I had no idea how it could have gotten out, and he stated in the event the story was printed or any contacts were made, the answer was to be no comment.

At 8:30 PM the same date, I advised Assistant Director H. P. CALLAHAN of the above.

At 8:00 AM on 10/13/64 JAMES C. LEHRER personally called me by phone and stated that he had been discussing the story which was coming out this date in the Dallas Times Herald with his City Editor, Mr. KEN SMART. He stated that both he and Mr. SMART wanted to assure me that no employee of the FBI was responsible for giving them this information. He stated that on 10/12/64, a call was received at the Dallas Times Herald from an individual who purported to be a neighbor of HOSTY, who had advised that HOSTY had been suspended for thirty days without pay and transferred to Kansas City.

LEHRER stated that, of course, they had been quite interested in HOSTY in the past in view of his connection with the assassination; that they had developed numerous neighborhood sources in an attempt to determine if and when the FBI did take administrative action against HOSTY. He indicated, while he did not say so, this was one of the neighborhood sources who had

2 - Dallas (67-5593) (67-425)

JGS:mfr

(2) mfr

67-425-1759

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 13 1964	
FBI - DALLAS	

[Handwritten signature]

DL #67-5593

probably advised them. He noted that one of these sources had in the past given some background information on HOSTY and his wife and family and was published in a New York newspaper. I attempted to secure from LEHRER more information and he stated he would not give any more details, but that it would be absolutely impossible for something like this to be kept quiet, with HOSTY having a number of children in school, being active in his church and other organizations in the area, and well known by the neighbors. Mr. LEHRER stated that this was ^{not} going to be a planted article, but that it would be real factual, that there would be background on HOSTY and his family, and his connection with the assassination investigation.

LEHRER stated that he knew, of course, I would not make any comment, but that he wanted to give me an opportunity to do so. I told him I would not make any. He then stated he would call the FBI Headquarters in an attempt to verify this information, but that they were reasonably certain it was factual and were going to print it anyway.

I immediately thereafter called Assistant Director C. D. BE LOACH and furnished him the above information. He instructed that I was to make absolutely no comment.

(6)(6)
I then attempted to call Assistant Director H. P. CALLAHAN and in his absence I talked to Assistant to the Director, JOHN P. MOHR and furnished him this information. I pointed out to Mr. MOHR that it would appear that this information had gotten out through the neighborhood; that HOSTY had claimed to me that he would not mention his suspension to anyone except his wife. I again pointed out to Mr. MOHR that HOSTY [redacted] and that I strongly recommended against any additional action. Mr. MOHR told me to play it absolutely straight and make no comment.

In his telephone conversation today, LEHRER stated that on yesterday they had checked their various sources in Washington, D. C., but he declined to advise as to whether they had received any confirming information from Washington, or to give the nature of the source.