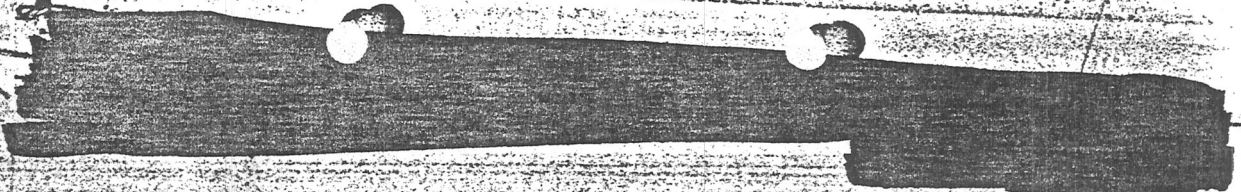


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DALLAS TEXAS

October 14, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

When I read in yesterday's newspaper about the disciplinary action taken against your agent, James Hosty, I was deeply moved and I find it hard to believe that you and/or your department would let the Warren commission report directly influence you to take such ridiculously tardy action against this man. You stood behind Mr. Hosty in the dispute against the Dallas Police Lieut. and you defended him regarding the information about Oswald not being of sufficient magnitude to report to the Secret Service prior to the president's assassination, so why make him the fall-guy at this late date. Your agency could absorb a reprimand much easier than this one individual whom I have the pleasure of knowing slightly. The Warren commission report had little effect on my high regard for the FBI but the suspension of agent Hosty was more than I could comprehend and perhaps you might be generous enough to acknowledge that a mistake was made this time in Washington.

Naturally Mr. Hosty has no knowledge of this correspondence and I would like to relate to you some personal information about which you probably don't know. Mr. and Mrs. Hosty are extremely active in their church and school, the largest parish in the city, and they are highly respected and admired. Agent Hosty was re-elected for the second year as Grand Knight of council 799 of the Knights of Columbus whose membership runs over 1500. Needless to say he is very popular with the members of the council because of his highly capable position. There will be many saddened Dallasites if Jim is forced to move from here, especially under the existing circumstances. As you may already know Mr. Hosty is the father of eight children and his wife is now expecting their ninth. Such a move to Kansas City at this time would create such a hardship on this family that it is beyond all sound comprehensive reasoning just how anyone could carry out such action as was ordered by your agency. Regarding Mr. Hosty's suspension, without pay,

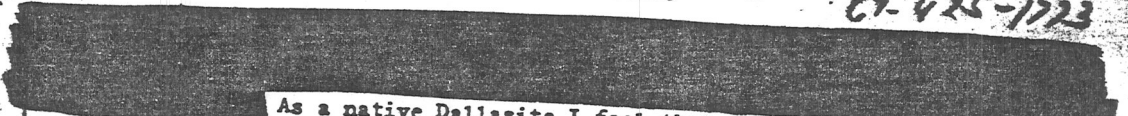
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Agent Hosty may be represented by just a jacket in your files in Washington but down here he considerably more. Regardless of how learned a personnel director is, if he has not been exposed directly to the same nine-dependent situation, involving school changes, finances, etc., as Mr. Hosty, then he has little comprehension as to really what takes place.

In view of what has been written above I strongly urge you to reconsider Mr. Hosty's reprimand and limit it to his letter of censure.

67-425-1723

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As a native Dallasite I feel that only one person was directly responsible for Mr. Kennedy's death and for anyone to attach partial blame to Mr. Hosty by claiming he was negligent in his duties is ridiculous.

What is said above in the first paragraph is based on newspaper reports and any more exacting details known by your agency are not considered herein.

Sincerely yours,

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