

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Cochran *12/213*  
FROM : B. P. Herndon *BPM-f*  
SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ON IDENTIFICATION  
OF LETTER FROM LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
TO "MR. HUNT", SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 1977  
EDITIONS OF WASHINGTON POST AND STAR

DATE: 4/4/77

- Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_
- Fin. & Pers. \_\_\_\_\_
- Gen. Inv. *101/12*
- Ident. \_\_\_\_\_
- Inspection \_\_\_\_\_
- Intell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
- Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_
- Rec. Mgnt. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

PURPOSE: *John F. Kennedy*

The Sunday Star and The Washington Post, April 3, 1977, editions both contained articles concerning the identification of a letter allegedly written by Lee Harvey Oswald to a "Mr. Hunt" by "three handwriting experts" commissioned by the Dallas Morning News and certified with the International Graphoanalysis Society (IGAS). The purpose of this memorandum is to set forth background information on IGAS and the news articles.

DETAILS:

In news articles appearing in the Washington Post and Sunday Star, on April 3, 1977, the Dallas Morning News reported that three handwriting examiners commissioned by that paper identified a letter written to a "Mr. Hunt" as being the authentic handwriting of Lee Harvey Oswald. These articles stated that the handwriting experts were certified by the IGAS. Bufiles contained no record concerning the three handwriting experts involved. *JA*

IGAS is based in Chicago, Illinois, and is primarily a business which offers a mail-order, home-study course of instruction in graphoanalysis and graphology, i. e. the study of

Enclosures (3)

- 1 - Mr. Cochran
- 1 - Mr. Herndon
- 1 - [REDACTED]

ST-113  
REC-71

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CONTINUED - OVER

*FMD/mvs*  
(4)

7 APR 8 1977

62-109060

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FROM LEE HARVEY OSWALD TO "MR. HUNT", SUNDAY,  
APRIL 3, 1977, EDITIONS OF WASHINGTON POST AND STAR

handwriting to determine character or personality. In conjunction with this course of instruction, IGAS also sells an "advanced course" dealing with handwriting identification in which its members become "certified" as "Master Graphoanalysts". Members of this organization who are employed in handwriting identification problems are not highly regarded in the questioned document field since the basis of their work, graphology or graphoanalysis, is not regarded as having scientific validity, certitude or accuracy.

Efforts to obtain the original document in question have been negative to date although FBI Dallas was able to obtain a copy which is too indistinct for adequate examination with Oswald's handwriting exemplars by our own Laboratory personnel. A photocopy of this letter is attached together with the Washington Post and Sunday Star articles. Dallas is attempting to re-interview William Penn Jones regarding his copy of this letter. There is no record in Bureau files of this letter ever being received by the Director or anyone else in the FBI.

ACTION:

For information.

APPROVED: _____	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Ext. Affairs _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
Assoc. Dir. _____	Fin. & Pers. _____	Rec. Mgt. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____	Gen. Inv. <i>M/S</i>	S. & T. Serv. <i>✓ JC RES</i>
Dep. AD Inv. _____	Ident. _____	Spec. Inv. _____
	Intell. _____	Training _____