

- Early Evidence #2

Formatting of doc material for corruption of the evidence from the start.

Some of this found in Chpt. 5 of BOT that was not used for book.

Major section will deal with the failure to establish a chain of possession of the evidence.

- Doc. # 1 Drain's record of evidence he brought back to FBIHQ on 11/22-11.23 Arrived at BuLab at 7:30 A.M. on 11/23. Note that Drain (105-82555-(Sect. 21) lists only ten items. Which he then claims he returned to Dallas and the DPD on morning of 11/24. Might want to note that in the inventory only 2 spent rifle cartridges are listed. ***** Note: 3rd will appear on p. 181 as being delivered by Drain to FBIHQ on 11/27 along with palm print on rifle. All after Oswald's own death. I need to just mention without an overplay. Add here Fritz's executed affidavit 7H403 in which he claims 3 spent rifle cartridges were found under the SE corner window. No explanation as to what happened to the 3 shell. . . .or why Fritz held it back, if indeed, he did. Affidavit attached to Doc. batch # 1
- Add here Vince Drain's account of C-135 cargo plane. .making it clear that the Air Force was ordered by LBJ to make the plane available.
- Cadigan's 7H WC testimony. . . notes that evidence package made up of 4-500 items. Page where he notes that there were supervisory officials at Lab on 11/23 at 7:00 A.M. from Internal Security Division to inspect these items. . .for fingerprints, etc before the stuff was photographed. See also Doc. # 3 Handley to Rosen

11/22/1963 (62-109060-812 for more on FBI personnel to be present on Saturday morning for evidence check.

- Curry's 4H testimony 194-195 Makes point that stuff sent to WDC with Drain was to be photographed by FBI. . . .The material was scooped up so quickly from the DPD that there was no chance for it to make a
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- written record. . . . In short, the line of possession was irreparably violated. . He notes FBI DC sent photos of about 400 items. . . .He says that DPD never got any of the evidence back . . .Rankin said that Commission was still working with it w/FBI, etc. . . . Curry notes that someone in high authority wanted the evidence in Washington . . .Dulles cuts him off. . . .
- Make case that the high authority was LBJ(via Cliff Carter). See Armstrong for his thoughts on why the haste. Might want to play up the "panic problem" that was prevalent at White House (See file "Color Material" for WH Central Files. . .see p. 4. What might LBJ have learned from Hoover the day of 11/22 that would have incited "panic." Was the alleged assassin a Castro agent or a US intelligence asset. . . Looking for material like this for 11/22 that would have prompted LBJ to turn it all over to FBI. That becomes more clear over the weekend. . . .
- Inventories of stuff collected from Beckley and Paine's on 11/22 found in WC Exhibits "Stovall A" and "Stovall B." and "Turner Ex. No.1) Might want to check against DL Police Records I have
- JA notes in H&L that Cadigan's deleted testimony (restored later) said that evidence was returned to DPD 2 or 3 days later. . . . He even notes that there was a big news splash about the return . . .Curry in 4H194 says that as far as he knew the DPD never got any of the

evidence back. . . . Conclude: that the picture session was set up for PR reasons. . Did the FBI show the stuff and then pack it all up again and fly it back to FBIHQ?

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Because all the evidence was back in Washington w/ WC. . as Rankin notes.

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- This all laid out in Hal's 75-226 CA suite
- Add to this chapter JFK's clothing. . . Point being that all early examinations nullify the Single-Bullet theory long before it was dreamed up by the Commission. Question: Does it belong here in a chapter on early evidence????
- Query: Hal's suite goes into the curbstone. . . Another case of neglected evidence. I have this in BOT. Do I need to go into this again under the RUBRIC of evidence ignored? All in 4B
- To be considered would be the other bullets found in and around Dealey Plaza. . . This is laid out in Hal's 75-226 suite.

***** Batch of FBI docs from CA 75-226 to be reviewed*****

Note that Table of Contents for 75-226 are sections on Other Shots, Other tests. Do I want to discuss as evidence ignored? For other shots see file 13 A attached. Check with BOT on what I included aside from the Aldridge bullet.

Also under VI none of specimens FBI tested were altered –no questions raised about the integrity of the evidence. ***** This could be IMPORTANT to review, pp. 86-90 of CA suite. . . .

Other considerations: Washing out of the limo. . . Go to VP "Survivor's Guilt" for citations. P. 178. See also BOT.

Include the finding of CE# 399. . . John Hunt file
How to handle the Minox camera. Do I use this with chain of possession problem? How the evidence package was added to

and/or subtracted from on FBI's sole decision. What we really mean about the FBI control of the evidence. This all preface to the "captivation of the Warren Commission."

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Some reprints from Savage's book. Note material on the Minox camera. He insists that Dallas evidence people insisted it was a Minox camera not a light meter. Also Dallas police went to morgue and fingerprinted Oswald. . . .and did they lift the palm print that appeared w/ Day after Oswald's death?

Added to this topic would be material from Chpt. 5 that was not used in BOT. Deals with the compromising of the alleged assassination scene on 6th floor. I probably should lead with this.

Be sure to review Hal's 13B FBI control of evidence. . .

File #17 TD Evidence received early by FBI

Doc. # 1 Shanklin to file 1/29/'64 Key--- Shanklin quotes Gemberling and Heitman that the evidence left Dallas so quickly that Dallas FO did not get a chance to review it before it was sent to FBI BUL in DC. Also noted that the pics of the various items "were not too good" Same complaint made by Curry in his WC testimony. See above.

Note: When JA talks about the press session with the FBI and Dallas Police and the evidence on 11/26 or 11/27. . . Was the evidence in question the stuff that Drain inventoried (ten items of the physical evidence) that was being turned over to the FBI in this charade??? Just a thought. Does JA refine it at all? Attached page makes clear that what DPD got were photos. . . .and not very good ones.

Doc. # 4 Rosen to Belmont 11/22 Notes that LHO charged in the Tippit shooting.

Doc. # 5 Director to All Offices 11/22 at 8:40 P.M. 62-109060-4
FBI vacuum cleaner approach. . . round up all known extremists. . .
Esp. KKK and other racial extremists. Was this prompted by
Milteer threats earlier that month.

Doc. # 6 Director to SACs NO and Dallas 10:00 P.M. 11/22 this
in response to military intelligence from Lt. Col. Jones . . . focus
moving toward Oswald and Hidell.

Doc. # 7 Director to FBIHQ 11/22/'63 62-109060-6 "Get
everyone involved in shooting and get them fast." Give me
someone or some ones asap. . .

Doc. # 8 Hoover to Att General 11/23 62-109060-7 The assassin
for Hoover is Oswald. . . The enclosed results. . . By 11/23 what
was the strength of the case against Oswald . . .

Doc# 9 Director to all Sacs 11/23 12:30 P.M. Oswald as
principal suspect . . .He has been charged w. JFK's murder as well
as Tippit. . . Once what was the state of the evidence against him .

.Doc. # 10 11/23 LBJ declares Monday as day of morning. . . 62-
109060-41.

Doc. # 11 Rosen to Belmont 11/23 62-109060-106 Notes that
Drain's departure time from Dallas and arrival at Andrews will be
2:51 and arrives 3:55 a.m. Notes that examiners will be ready to
process evidence as soon as it arrives at BuLab.
See attached Doc.# 11 Belmont to Tolson 11/22 . . . Immediate
vacuum cleaner approach to all offices—klan hate groups, etc. . . if
the man the police had arrested proved not to be the assassin.
Shanklin called at 2:55 p.m. that the man captured by police was
believed to be the assassin of JFK. – Hoover will settle on Oswald
asap. . .

Doc. # 12 11/22 Rosen to Belmont 62-109060-1272 . . .
.Essentially Shanklin was pushed to have the FBI take over the
investigation from the get go from the SS. What evidence surfaces

as determining of Oswald's guilt are the rifle and the "bullet which
allegedly killed the President" was found in the limo.

Doc. # 15 SAC, Dallas to Director, 11/23/1963 62-109060-40
Lists the evidence package that was being sent to FBIHQ. . . only
the main items.

Doc. #14 Belmont to Tolson 11/22 9:18 P.M. EST 62-109060-
1431***** Belmont learns from Shanklin about arrangements
made with Carswell Air Force base to fly Drain and evidence to
FBI BULAB. . . So the arrangements made by the White House
and not via Hoover. Also notes the LBJ wants Hoover to solve the
case asap. . . .Key document.

NOTE: The thing you notice that ties Oswald to the crime is the
rifle and the bullet found at Parkland Hosp. The FBI had this all by
11/23 and it was all over FBI documents for 11/22 and 11/23.
made it easy for Oswald to be placed in the frame from the outset.
All the pieces in place for a quick resolution of the case to satisfy
the politics of the emergency. All this before Dallas released the
results of the paraffin tests. This had to be a jolt. . . Hoover "npt
very, very strong evidence. . . "

Doc. # 15A Jevons to Conrad 11/23 Covers the early delivery of
evidence to FBIBULAB . . . Mentions the 2 spent rifle cartridges. .
.and the bullet recovered by SS.

Doc # 15B Jevons to Conrad 11/23 More on evidence under
investigation . . .Mentions CE# 399

Doc.# 16 Hoover memo 11/22 11:30 A.M. Before any news of
Dallas . . . Ike called to tell Hoover that Friendly of CBS News
told him that there was a campaign afoot to undermine the FBI and
the director. . . . Did any of this haunt Hoover when the news of
Dallas hit him?????

pot in
CD-1
see
McNaughton
comment
on
CD-1

Doc.# 17 Belmont to Tolson 11/22 62-109060-99 **** Key doc. Written immediately after word of Dallas reached FBI HQers Belmont wants the FBI to enter the case even without jurisdiction . . .by offering SS every assistance. . . He told Shanklin that a teletype to all offices was going out to round up any and all known extremists—Klan and hate groups, racial extremists, bombing suspects, and any others in bureau files that might have been involved. This would go out to all offices if the suspect the Dallas PD hrested was not responsible for the shooting. . .

At 2:55 EST Shanklin called that DPD had suspect who shot a cop and was suspected assassin of JFK.

***** Check other file showing when Hoover/Belmont called off the vacuum-cleaner approach

Doc. # 18 Note that Hoover jumped to the lone nut explanation before he was confronted with FBI investigative deficiencies in the case. . . . I mean here the failure of F BI to have Oswald on SI. . . and Hoover's own earlier cautions about a possible Oswald imposter. Then by Monday the Oswald in Mexico business. . .

HSCA letter from Willens to Rankin on how the Report is/should handle the evidence part of Chpt. 4, the key chapter. (Note how Willens dismissed Brennen's eyewitness testimony. . . Be fun to compare this with how Ball was Brennen's great champion on the Commission.

Note Locate Hal's file on the FBI and the Evidence and how it was controlled. This belongs with this writing material.

News story on 11/23 that notes there were "three expended shells lying alongside the book rollers on 6th floor. Question how possible. Never explained where and when the 3rd (and why)

cartridge shell showed upDid Fritz keep one in his desk drawer like he was supposed to have done with the Tippit bullets.

17A TD John Hunt & finding of CE#399

- Pages from V. Palamara's medical evidence. Raises all kinds of questions about who found the bullet. . . .and where and under what circumstances. Worth a review. . . .Simply to note but not to try and resolve. Leave for a endnote to reader.
- I have my own text in BOT that I can borrow from or cite in a endnote.
- FBI Doc# 105-82555-505(Section 21)Note it reads that CE#399 "from stretcher" was received by SA Elmer L. Todd. J. Hunt piece makes case that Todd's mark not on CE#399. . . .Although Frazier testified that he received it from Todd (3H428). Todd testified that CE#399 was the bullet that came from Connally's stretcher (See CE 201) and 24H(413), CD2).
 - But Todd's mark is not on the bullet. . .
 - Couple of add ons if needed. See WC testimony of Frazier where he casually remarks that CE#399 was wiped clean before it was examined. (All tissue/blood evidence lost.)
 - Two possibilities that WC should have considered: A anti-Castro Cuban activist who worked at the hospital and Seth Kantor on Ruby at the hospital after the assassination. Question of who might have planted the bullet. Actually, from Palamara and the contradictory testimony in Hunt's piece an equally likely planter was the FBI of SS. . . .
- Is it worth saying something about medical opinion about whether CE#399 could have done what WC attributed to it? See Jim White's citations plus BOT stuff.

See C. Aguilar +
Thompson piece