

FBI Attack Notes

Page 2 Documents Inventory for this chapter

*Smaller A  
to Vol 11  
HSCA  
referred as  
Appendix*

1. Judge Tamm to Hoover. . . news clipping re: Hal's publishing of WC Transcript for January 27, 1964. . . Oswald as possible FBI asset. . . WC all tied in knots re: how to handle. . .
2. HSCA (Ewing) interview with WC counsel Samuel Stern 8/22/'78  
Makes sour comments re: FBI regarding the destruction of the Hosty note and other stuff. . .  
2A Comments from Goldberg about FBI being defensive and left impression if Bureau wanted to keep it a secret the WC could take a hike.
3. Interesting backdrop to the NY Times edition of the WC Report. . . and the question of timing for release of the Report. . . \*\*\*\*
4. Check NY Times for 1/1/1965 that notes on 5/9/1964 LBJ signed Ex. Order exempting Hoover from compulsory retirement at age 70. (I might want to do a Google on this for more detail and color).
5. NSC Report on the Church Committee's findings re: Warren Commission Report. . . Notes CIA & FBI role in JFK assassination . . . The report concentrates on about 180 pages in which the Church Committee focused on the CIA and the FBI. . . p. 1 It notes that while CIA and FBI claimed to keep files on JFK case open . . . in both cases this was a lie. . . neither agency pursued any claims or possible leads after Oswald's death . . . p. 2 cites Hoover's "almost paranoid distrust" of Warren Commission motives and "extremely defensive and reactionary defensive" reaction to the WC Report on the FBI's neglect on the Oswald matter. . . Key on term "paranoid" distrust of the WC. . .
6. \*\*\*\* Belmont to Tolson 9/28/'64 Commentary on the WC Report and its treatment of the FBI. . . . See Hoover's running commentary about how the WCR criticizes the FBI. . . Hoover is not happy. . . and lays the blame on the Bureau for the Report's criticisms. . . \*\*\*\* Must use document. . .
7. Note to myself to check on Vol. XI of the HSCA for Commission views on Hoover. . . Rankin especially. . .

*Good  
Gutt*

*Key*

*7*

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8. I have note to see DiEugenio's no. 8 on Bugliosi on p. 44 that Ford saw to it that Hoover had copy of WC Report by July 23, 1964. . . .This was the penultimate copy. . . .Not the final copy where the FBI was criticized. . .
9. I have note to see DiEugenio on Bugliosi Pt. 9 the contains valuable stuff related to this issue. . . .
10. What I have in the garage pertinent to this chapter:  
Box# 1-- 2 files on FBI reaction to WC Report; 3 files FBI reaction to the WCR; FBI vendetta against WC staff; 2 files FBI counterattack on the WC.
11. Box #6 in garage re: Hoover rancor w/ WC . . . .adversarial relations with the WC. .

Set of docs from RG 65 at NARA . . . .Separated out together. . . .\*\*\*

12 Rosen to Belmont 3/24/1964 records discussion with Rankin re: charge that WC had lack of confidence in the FBI. . . Based on assertion that WC wanted independent investigation by outside sources –handwriting and fingerprinting examinations.. . Rankin bends over backward to assure FBI that investigations outside FBI done by govt agencies. . . .not outside sources. . . heaven forfend. . He notes also that he opposed this move by the WC . . . RG 65/Box 110 NARA [for full cite see Index card. [note: I have failed to attach folder nos to these)

*Shipped to  
Residual  
file*

- 13.....Hoover to Rankin 11/23/'64 response to Rankin to Hoover 11/18/'64 where Rankin singles out for praise, etc. . . a host of FBI agents and assistant directors. . . This is what Hoover will call sugary suck up. . . to take sting from the WC's Chapter that levels criticism at the FBI. . .RG 65 , Box 109, NARA
14. Rosen to Belmont 4/4/'64 More on Rankin praise for FBI witnesses (hard evidence guys like Frazier, Cunningham, Cadigan . . .etc. . . Key:

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Hoover response where he dismisses all this "syrupy" stuff. . . when they are looking for FBI gaps, etc

*Key here*

15. Jevons to Conrad 3/20/'64 RG 65, Box 65 Notes that Eisenberg reports that WC has tasked the Division at Aberdeen to exam the firearms evidence. . . See Hoover's readable comment "It is obvious that the Commission does not have confidence in our laboratory." Spurred by Eisenberg's request that all firearms evidence be delivered to his office so he could see that it was delivered to Ronald Simmons . . . at Aberdeen Maryland for re-examination."

16. This is classic: 3 docs. . . See Jevons to Conrad 3/12/'64 sets off the exchange. . . on p. 2 re: the Tippit shooting. It is noted that cartridge cases at the scene "identified with Oswald's revolver." But because "of mutilation the bullet was not susceptible of identification." This was the bullet removed from Tippit at the hospital . . . Point: There were 2 other bullets removed from Tippit. . . and the FBI never bothered to collect and test. [I have a file on Tippit bullets . . . This is one of a series of FBI failure to pursue the physical evidence. . . Like Connally's coat, etc. . .

What it understandably sparked with the Commission was the need to seek outside examination of some of the fire arms evidence. . . This triggers off Hoover's explosions about the Commission going outside as a check on the FBI BuLab, etc. . . See Hoover's priceless comments on p. 3 and other pages of this 3-set document.

17. Hoover's sour reactions to the WC Report re: FBI shortcomings, etc. In this in-house document Hoover by implication agrees with the WC's criticisms.



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18. Copy of Follard piece in Wash Post on the WC's Report on FBI shortcomings. . . Hoover throws blame on Belmont and Sullivan for FBI failure to keep Hosty from screwing up . . .

19. Norman Redlich to Hoover 10/1/'64 Redlich sings praises of FBI and lists names of agents he was impressed with while serving on the WC. (One wonders if Rankin and/or Warren inspired this . . .

20. Jevons to Conrad 3/26/'64 FBI Lab finally accesses the other 3 bullets taken from Tippit (how many exactly did he have in his body??) Recall FBI could not make match with the one cited above in # 16. It is not till March when they discover the other 3 extracted by Dallas coroner. . . that FBI never bothered to track down. . . Point here: BuLab reports that these 3 cannot be definitely tied to Oswald's revolver. So the physical evidence in the case exonerates Oswald from the Tippit shooting. . .

See attached SAC, Dallas to Director 3/14/'64 for story of the missing other 3 Tippitt bullets. . . (Great Stuff). . .

*note*

21. \*\*\*\* Key docs. This is the prime doc. on the Tippit bullets. . . and why the WC decided to seek outside investigation of the firearms evidence in the case. When it became clear that FBI never bothered to uncover the other slugs from Tippit (since Oswald was dead/case closed). . . . The WC moved for an independent investigation of the firearms evidence. . . .

22. A sample of Hoover peek. . . See marginalia: "The Commission has not shown any confidence in the FBI—they have called on other technical experts to recheck our work & have sent squads of attys to Dallas & New Orleans to reinterview persons already interviewed by us." Hoover

23 Penultimate copy of WC Report Rosen to Bemont 7/3/'64 . . . . Perusal reveals that Report has no criticisms of the FBI . . . . Query: Was this secreted to the FBI by Ford? Or was it made available by the Commission? First graph Rosen notes no criticism of the FBI. . . This sort of sets the Bureau up for the final Report & Chapter 8. . . . When FBI is held responsible for shortcomings that endangered JFK. . .

*Ford provided this copy*

*= not authorized by Rankin ~~Warren~~ Warren*

24. Rosen to Belmont 12/24/'63 FBI dereliction re: evidence in the case starts here when the FBI never bothered to acquire a copy of the JFK autopsy report. . . .Should have put Rankin on notice. Rankin wanted a copy of the Bethesda report because of Newspaper accounts that JFK was struck at least once from the front. . . .Hoover notes: "If the Warren Commission is going to re-run down every wild newspaper story it will never finish." Pretty clear where Hoover's priorities rested. . .

Key

25. Hoover to Jenkins (was to go to LBJ). . .9/30/'64 Director sheds any responsibility for FBI failure to notify SS of Oswald and his position on the Dallas presidential route. . . .In short, FBI had no evidence of Lee's violent nature. . . .(In short Hoover does not know or suppresses the Hosty note business).

No  
Key

26. Commission lawyer Joe Ball in newspaper quoted 11/25/'64 said staff never met with the Commission . . . .also that FBI never assisted in Dallas (that would be with interviews, etc and the re-enactment) and "developed endless red tape for communicating with their lab and experts. FBI field agents and lab men were not allowed to contact the lawyers."

27. These are all dupes that repeat stuff at 16. . . .Except the identification of each document is complete for RG 65\*\*\*\*\* Use these in conjunction with item 15 above. . . .

28. Conrad to Belmont 10/5/'64 . . . .Conrad lights out at the WC and wants the Bureau to fight back . . .

\_\_\_\_\_ End of RG 65-----