

RELEASED PER P.L. 102-526 (JFK ACT)
NARA WT DATE 6/24/11

RQ 200
Reel
Box 22

F 348

File Oswald
no Sale
Suspect

204
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NOV 18 1964

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Your letter of November 12 responded to our suggestion that it might be desirable to investigate further the accuracy of the original description of the President's alleged assassin that was broadcast by the Dallas police at 12:43 p.m., November 22, 1963. We had also asked whether the police engaged in searching the Texas School Book Depository were notified of this description of the alleged assassin, and if so, when.

You state that in a letter of January 14, 1964 you notified the Commission that the Dallas Police Department advised that the broadcast was incorrect on the basis of a description furnished by an individual who had observed an individual approximating Oswald's description running from the Texas School Book Depository building immediately after the assassination. Since there is other testimony that the description was also based on information given by Edward Bremer who stated that he saw the assassin in the southeast corner window of the building, it would seem desirable to ascertain as precisely as may be possible the sources of which there seem to have been several--on which the description was based and how and by what the information was transmitted to the Dallas Department to be put out by the radio dispatcher.

In its Report, the Commission has determined that considerable time--15 minutes or more--elapsed between the broadcast of the description and the discovery of the carcase and other material evidence in the southeast corner window of the sixth floor, 37 minutes elapsed before the discovery of the rifle. An even longer time had elapsed since Bremer first told a policeman of seeing the assassin from the southeast window. Yet the man searching in the building soon never to have been notified of Bremer's statement.

Rankin
Rankin services
Question
Reflects Rankin's
+ majority of
the members
+ some
staff
Bremer

Napping
suspect
as there should
have been
Mrs. Oswald a
Patsy - per my
the Bell
addressing

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RC 200 Rankin Papers

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It is appreciated that the members of the Dallas Police Department Crime Laboratory may have been delayed by traffic in reaching the building, but there is ample evidence that search of the sixth floor had already been undertaken by other law enforcement officers. It would therefore be desirable to know when, if ever, information was transmitted to the officers engaged in searching the building that the shots had been fired from the sixth floor, or more specifically, from the southeast corner window on the sixth floor. It is appreciated that the failure to communicate this information to the officers in the building might well have been the result of the turmoil and uncertainty that prevailed, but it would still be desirable to have this information on the record and available for future reference and research.

Analysis and criticism of the Commission Report in the press (see attached article) has pointed to this significant time lag in the discovery of the carton, cartridges, and rifle. For future reference and research purposes, and to render the investigation more complete, it would be desirable to secure more precise information on these points.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel *92*

Attachment

"Warren Report--Case for the Prosecution," by Murray Kempton, in The New Republic

AGoldberg/smh
11-17-64

Results of FBI investigation after Rankin's 11/18/64 note?