MS-FBI Seizes the Case

Doc-Summuch

from y

Doc. 9 (may be misfiled) deals w/ all the maneuvering to get Manchester to see the Director. Hoover refused to see him since his sponsor was the JD and Hoover was Mad at Katz for blaming the FBI for "leaks" when Hoover: "we have remained meticulously silent." Bobby Kennedy requests notwithstanding.

Manchester was chosen by the Kennedys because of the favorable book he did on JFK as a campaign bio.

Jones finally succeeds by writing that Manchester had written some flattering things about the Director. This is all lead into Hoover's boasting that the Fbi seized the Case from the get-go.

Hoover Hysteria: The rush to judgment

Hoover memo on 11/29 phone con. W/ LBJ. This is the classic one. Hoover lies to LBJ about Ford as Commissoner. He did know him (See notes from Gentry).

By 11/29 LBJ has come to accept the Commission approach over a joint Congressional investigation. When did LBJ decide on this?

Hoover notes that Report is delayed because of the Mexico question/CIA and LHO as a paid assassin. FBI has dates for LHO in Mexico on Sept. 28 not 18th as Ugarte said. Pt. One week after the assassination Hoover has all the facts still jumbled in his head. Doc. 13

Hoover phone con. On day of assassination. He is wrong on all details of Dl except that Oswald is the one.

In same batch Military Intelligence Reports on LHO. Feeds Hoover's sense that Oswald is a red.

The rush to judgment:

SA Newson to Dallas 11/25 re: the Bronson film. See attached the Bronson Folder on the film.

Rosen to Belmont 11/28 re: Bronson film. Rosen says that film shows one person in 6^{th} floor window w/ two persons on the 5^{th} floor below. He is definite about what the FBI story will be on the Bronson film. Calls early accounts of two on 6^{th} floor confused with the 5^{th} floor.

Belmont to Tolson. Belmont told Shanklin that FBI was in charge of the case at 9:18 P.M. LBJ had authorized the Bureau to move in and take it over. Had LBJ talked to Hoover before this? Check the SS phone logs. Sending some of the evidence to WDC BULAb. Belmont has JFK w/ a bullet still lodged behind his ear.

Page two

Renfro to Dl Not necessary to cover as true suspect located. SAC, Little Rock Oswald is only suspect; not to just office of origin but to all FBI Fos. This 12/12. This was 3 days after CD 1 was released to WC,

Hal note on Hoover hysteria (I prefer panic)

Schlesinger page on distancing from RFK. The removal of C. Evans, etc.

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