

6 March 1978

Mr. G. Robert Blakey  
Chief Counsel and Director  
Select Committee on Assassinations  
3331 House Office Building, Annex 2  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Blakey,

I am enclosing a paper I wrote ten years ago on the issue of Oswald's alleged request to see an FBI agent when he was under arrest in New Orleans. At the time I wrote the paper, I thought it left the issue inconclusive and did not seek publication. I still regard the issue as inconclusive, but my reading of some newly-released FBI documents has strengthened my suspicion that Oswald did not in fact request an interview with an FBI agent.

A number of the FBI documents recently released refer to Quigley's interview of Oswald in the New Orleans Police Department but do not specify that Oswald requested the interview (see, for example, Branigan memorandum to Sullivan dated 11-22-63, page 3 paragraph 3, which states: "Oswald was interviewed on 8-10-63 by agents of the New Orleans office and advised that he was unemployed...").

More important, an FBI document prepared by the New Orleans office dated September 24, 1963, states: "On August 9, 1963, Lt. William Gaillot, First District, New Orleans, Louisiana Police Department, advised that the following persons had been arrested on Canal Street...on that date and charged with disturbing the peace: Lee H. Oswald, Carlos Jose Bringuier, Celfo Marcario Hernandez and Miguel Mariano." This lends some support to the possibility that Oswald was interviewed by Quigley (and perhaps a second FBI agent) not at his own request but as a result of notification by Gaillot and on the initiative of the FBI itself.

This question has some inherent importance, and it may also cast some light on the performance of the FBI and of the Warren Commission itself in accepting a questionable version of events communicated by the FBI. I am sending you the enclosed paper just in case it may have some interest for you and your research staff.

Yours sincerely,

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