

Dallas Ex-Police Chief Alleges An F.B.I. Cover-Up on Oswald

HOUSTON, Sept. 1 (UPI)—

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Dallas police covered up until spring, 1964, a conversation indicating that the bureau had known that Lee Harvey Oswald was a threat to President Kennedy, The Houston Chronicle reported today.

The newspaper also reported that the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of the President on Nov. 22, 1963, did not fully check into the alleged conversation when the commission learned of it in May, 1964.

J. E. Curry, the Dallas Police Chief at the time, informed Chief Justice of the United States Earl Warren of the F.B.I.'s reported prior knowledge in a registered letter, The Chronicle said, and the newspaper printed a copy in today's edition.

Chief Curry who retired in 1964, wrote:

"On that date [Nov. 22], before newsmen, I stated that I had received information that the F.B.I. knew of Oswald's presence in Dallas and that the Dallas Police Department had no information on Oswald in its files. This statement was based on the report of Lieutenant [Jack] Revill."

In Writing for Curry

Three hours after President Kennedy was killed, Lieut. Revill said he encountered an F.B.I. agent, James Hosty, in the basement of the Dallas City Hall. Mr. Hosty told him the bureau had known that Oswald could be a threat to the President, Mr. Revill said in a statement. He eventually repeated his assertion to the Warren Commission, which was headed by Chief Justice Warren.

After being reached by The Chronicle, Lieutenant Revill reportedly stood by his statement.

"It [the meeting] happened," he said. "I know it happened, and Hosty knows it happened."

Lieutenant Revill said he had returned to the police department and had written down Mr. Hosty's remark, for Chief Curry, who then told newsmen that the bureau had known of Oswald's presence in Dallas.

In the registered letter to

Chief Justice Warren, Chief Curry wrote:

"Within a few minutes of my statement to the press, I received a telephone call from Mr. Gordon Shanklin, special agent in charge of the Dallas office of the F.B.I., in which Mr. Shanklin stated that the bureau was extremely desirous that I retract my statement to the press. I then appeared before the press again and retracted my statement. . . ."

Chief Curry also told Lieutenant Revill to keep silent about the information, according to

the police chief's letter to the Chief Justice.

Chief Curry reportedly told The Chronicle: "There's no doubt in my mind that his agent told my agent [Lieutenant Revill] what he did."

If the bureau had told him about Oswald, Chief Curry said, "I'd have had somebody sitting on him." He is said to have added that he would now have acted differently.

"I probably would have [revealed Lieutenant Revill's whole statement] even though I'd know it would make the F.B.I. mad because I had confidence in my lieutenant that gave me the information and it was checked out and found to be true," The Chronicle quoted him as saying.

Mr. Hosty now is an F.B.I. agent in Kansas City.

'Can't Say Anything'

"I'm still with the bureau," Mr. Hosty told The Chronicle. "I like my job; I can't say anything about anything."

Mr. Shanklin, now a lawyer in Dallas, denied having asked Chief Curry to suppress the information.

"I may have called Curry about one thing or another," he was quoted as saying, "but I don't remember calling him to tell him to suppress anything. I don't know what he's talking about."

The Chronicle said a copy of Lieutenant Revill's statement and other statements indicating a five-month cover-up of his statement were on record in the Texas State Archives in Austin, Tex., as part of an inquiry on the assassination made by the Texas Court of Inquiry.

Chief Curry retired from the force in 1964.