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AM-Hoover's help, 2 talks, 410-660

With AM-Kennedy files

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WASHINGTON AP — A Michigan man telephoned FBI headquarters to say the Russians had paid five men to kill John F. Kennedy. An agent investigated. He duly reported two empty whiskey bottles next to the man's bed and the man's inability to climb out of it.

A mental patient said he had information about John F. Kennedy's assassin Mon. Agents interviewed him. Turned out the Secret Service had interviewed him earlier. Surprise! The man's stories did not match.

One woman suggested that agents investigate graffiti on a bathroom wall at a Maryland restaurant. Another woman said the president's murder was a conspiracy. And she passed on a tip: her husband might have been in on it.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover complained at one point that "the ambassador in Mexico is acting like a Sherlock Holmes." At another point, a citizen sent in a \$20 reward to help find the assassin.

Hoover sent it back.

An artist sent the director a two-page letter about his theory on the assassination - and offered to paint his portrait in the bargain. Hoover politely declined.

Files on the Kennedy assassination made public Wednesday by the FBI show Hoover and his agents received offers of all kinds of help in their efforts to find out what was behind the killing.

The offers came in telegrams, phone calls and letters containing tips from neighbors, hunches suggested by friends, conversations overheard by telephone operators and diners - even poetry and bar talk.

One letter was slipped under the door of an agent's home.

The FBI thought some of these offers weren't worth a second glance. But the files show the bureau thought others were.

...Examine contents of suspect Oswald stomach and intestines for traces of chicken, wired a California man. In another telegram a New York man said: "Suggest analysis of feces of suspect Oswald Harvey also for traces of chicken."

The concern about chicken seems to have been prompted by the discovery of chicken bones near the spot where investigators said Oswald was standing when he shot at Kennedy.

The files don't show whether anyone found any children - or sugar, which a magazine editor suggested was the problem. Forthys, the editor suggested, Oswald was "a sugar drunkard like Hitler."

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WASINGTON: Mike Miller."

A Long Island woman blamed Kennedy's killing on television. An Atlanta man said Zionists were at fault.

A couple from New York City blamed Hoover himself. "Where were you?" they demanded.

Hoover replied: "I am disturbed by your unfounded accusation of negligence and feel it necessary to inform you that the protection of the president . . . is the responsibility of the Secret Service." The FBI questioned several drunks who said they shot the president.

All disavowed their "confessions" when they sobered up.

Agents investigated a man overheard to have told others: "The best man I could hear would be that two of the Kennedys were killed in an airplane crash while going to the funeral of the third Kennedy."

A woman in an Akron, Ohio, bar said Oswald was there but refused to dance with her. However, she added, a man named Mr. Ruby or Jack Rubenstein did dance with her - twice.

Guby, a Dallas nightclub owner, shot Oswald to death at the Dallas police station.

Agents checked the Akron woman's story.

They saw fit to investigate this, too:

An El Campo, Tex., woman who disagreed with her uncle's approval of Kennedy's policies sent him a wire.

"Thank God, you did it," she said.

Agents hunted the woman down.

She admitted it was a tasteless joke.

But the agents interrogated her anyway - for days.

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