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JAN 18 1978

OSWALD

BY BOB HORTON

WASHINGTON, Jan 18, REUTER - The late FBI director J. Edgar Hoover expressed concern about a mysterious hotel incident in 1964 involving the widow of President Kennedy's alleged assassin and a man who was then her business manager; according to previously secret FBI documents released today.

A memo from Mr. Hoover on the subject was written to the Secret Service; which was responsible for protecting Marina Oswald during her stay in a Washington hotel to testify for the Warren Commission's investigation of the Kennedy killing.

The document; with several words now blacked out; quotes her lawyer at the time as saying Mrs. Oswald dismissed both him and her business manager; James Herbert Martin; "probably as a result of 'some interplay' between Martin and her."

On questioning; Mrs. Oswald told the Secret Service "it was not a forceful act (and) that she consented to it."

The memo to the Secret Service; and another from Mr. Hoover to his top staff; turned up today among 54,754 pages of documents released for the first time from the FBI's thick files on its investigation of the Kennedy assassination.

MORE 1513

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Some 40,000 other pages from the FBI files were made available for public scrutiny last December in response to requests from news organizations and others with a continuing interest in the killing.

Mr. Hoover quoted a "confidential source" in informing the Secret Service of what he had heard about Mrs. Oswald in February; 1964. His memo contained three deletions; including the identity of the source.

In one censored passage; Mr. Hoover quoted the source as saying that Robert Oswald; brother of Lee Harvey Oswald; had learned from Marina herself that she "was forcibly made (deleted) with James Herbert Martin; her business manager."

Mrs. Oswald's room adjoined one being occupied by her business manager and her lawyer during the week she was in Washington to testify to the Warren Commission.

According to the Hoover memo; Commission Counsel J. Lee Rankin later called the FBI director to tell him the results of the Secret Service's subsequent check into the matter.

MORE 1515

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"MR. RANKIN COMMENTED THAT IT DOES NOT MAKE THEIR PROBLEMS ANY EASIER; NOR OURS EITHER; BUT THE COMMISSION FELT THAT THE SECRET SERVICE HAD A SPECIAL PROBLEM HERE OR RIGHT TO MAKE INQUIRY IN THE FIRST INSTANCE BECAUSE OF THE FACT IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS COULD HAVE HAPPENED WHILE THEIR PEOPLE WERE ON DUTY;" MR. HOOVER SAID IN ANOTHER MEMO TO HIS TOP STAFF. MRS. OSWALD INFORMED THE SECRET SERVICE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AFTER ITS PROTECTIVE WATCH OVER HER HAD BEEN LIFTED; HE SAID.

"THEY ALSO LEARNED A CURIOUS THING IN THAT SHE SAID SHE CALLED MRS. MARTIN AND TOLD HER ABOUT IT;" MR. HOOVER SAID. THE COMMISSION COUNSEL SUGGESTED THAT THE FBI ALSO QUESTION MARTIN ABOUT HER DISMISSAL OF THE LAWYER AND BUSINESS MANAGER MARTIN.

"MR. RANKIN SAID THEY ARE ASKING US...TO GET AFFIDAVITS; ET CETERA; ON THE THING AND A LETTER IS BEING SENT TO US;" MR. HOOVER WROTE. "MR. RANKIN SAID THIS IS WHAT SHE HAS TOLD THE SECRET SERVICE AND IT PRESENTS ALL KINDS OF PROBLEMS AS TO WHAT SHE IS UP TO AND WHAT MARTIN WAS UP TO."
REUTER 1518

JAN 18 1978

R208

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EDITORS: PLEASE HOLD OSWALD WASHINGTON (R190). WE CHECKING FURTHER.

REUTER 1531

R257

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EDITORS: PLEASE KILL OSWALD SERIES FROM WASHINGTON (R-194&3) WHICH WE ASKED YOU AT 1531 (R-200) TO HOLD. WE ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN BALANCING QUOTES AT THIS TIME.

REUTER 1721

JAN 18 1978