

Memorandum--Preliminary investigation

12/13/68

Re: Barbara Brookey

From: Gary Richard Schoener

Background: FBI report dated 11/27/63 concerning investigation conducted on 11/25/63 at Columbus, Ohio indicated that Barbara Brooke, 101 S. Sylvan Avenue, Columbus, Ohio took two photographs of the White House on the morning of Saturday, April 13, 1963. Each photo contains 3 persons who were picketing the White House (Washington, D.C.). According to Barbara, she remembers it as a group in sympathy with Castro and one of the pickets may be identical to Lee Harvey Oswald. She furnished the two slides to the FBI and according to the FBI report said that they need not be returned.

Followup investigation reported on 12/2/63 indicated that there was picketing in front of the White House on April 13, 1963.

Personal Investigation: Two attempts (in case of operator error) were made to obtain a telephone number for Barbara Brooke, Barbara Brook, or anyone with that last name residing at 101 Sylvan Ave. South, or any address on Sylvan Avenue, with no success. It was decided to travel to that address and inquire about Barbara's current whereabouts.

12/13/68: Traveled to Columbus, Ohio, and contacted the Post Office Branch Office which services Sylvan Avenue South. They referred me to the main branch of the Post Office to which I immediately went. The clerk in Rm212, Administrative Services, Post Office Bldg. (850 Twin River Drive) located only one change of address card for 101 Sylvan Ave. South: William A. Brookey
28818 Hoover Road
Regency Park, Apt.7
Warren Michigan 48093

The clerk noted that in the case of a husband and wife there are usually change of address cards for both, or one card with both names on it, and therefore suggested the possibility that Barbara was married to Wm. Brookey and had been divorced.

Careful checks in the offices of both the Marriage and Divorce courts revealed no records of either marriage or divorce for William A. Brookey. Divorce records were checked from 1963 to present, and Marriage records were checked from 1945 to present. Both courts are located on E. Mound Street, with the Divorce records being at 35 ~~East Mound~~ and the marriage records just across the street.
E. Mound

I then went to the main Telephone Bldg. at 35 east Gay St. and examined the 1963 telephone directory. I found the following: Alvin E. Brookey
101 S. Sylvan
BR4-2887

I attempted to call the number listed, since it is also listed in the 1968 directory, but could not find anyone home. I at that point I decided to continue my travels and communicate with Barbara by mail.

Conclusion: The incorrect spelling of Barbara's last name hinges on purposeful deception, since neither myself nor several telephone operators guessed the correct name Brookey as a possible variant or misspelling of Brooke. At the very least this is an inexcusable error on the part of the FBI, especially since evidence was obtained from her. The FBI did not turn the photos over to the Archives.

Date 11/27/631

BARBARA BROOKE, 101 South Sylvan Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, advised that she is employed as a public school teacher at Columbus, Ohio. During Easter recess, 1963, she traveled to Washington, D.C., to visit friends and tour Washington. On the morning of Saturday, April 13, 1963, as she drove by the White House, she took two photographs of the White House. At this time pickets were walking in front of the White House, and three pickets appear in each photograph she took. She does not recall the purpose of the pickets, but thinks it was some group in sympathy with CASTRO.

She advised that she recently reviewed the photographs taken at Washington, D.C., and area and noted that one of the pickets bears a strong resemblance to, and may be identical with, LEE HARVEY OSWALD, alleged assassin of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. These photographs are in the form of color slides.

BROOKE furnished the two color slides depicting views of the north front of the White House, showing three men carrying signs, and stated that these slides need not be returned to her if they were determined to be of any interest to the FBI. She initialed each of the slides for identification.

CR 7

File # CI 62-2738
 on 11/25/63 at Columbus, Ohio Date dictated 11/25/63
 by SA LOREN M. BEDELI/jas

Brooke, Barbara

12-2-63

WFO 105-37111

HRH:pap

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Mexican Consulate at about 10 a.m. on the date she obtained her tourist card.

BARBARA BROOKE, 101 South Sylvan Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, employed as a public school teacher in Columbus, advised SA LOREN BEDELL on November 25, 1963 that during Easter recess, 1963, she traveled to Washington, D.C., to visit friends and tour the city. She stated that on the morning of Saturday, April 13, 1963, while driving by the White House, she took two photographs, at which time there were pickets in front of the White House. She does not recall the purpose of the picketing, but thought it may have been a group in sympathy with CASTRO. On reviewing two photographs taken at Washington on that occasion, she noted one of the three pickets bore a strong resemblance to and might be identical with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. She furnished two color slides showing views of the north front of the White House with three men carrying signs. Predicated on this information, investigation was conducted to determine the identity of any groups or pickets which may have been in front of the White House in the morning of April 13, 1963.

SA WALTER C. PINE, Protective Research Branch, United States Secret Service, Washington, D.C., advised SA HOMER R. HAUER on November 27, 1963, that a review of records failed to reflect specifically what, if any, groups appeared in front of the White House on April 13, 1963. PINE said his records showed that between April 10 and 18, 1963, a group of Iranian students intended to picket and in addition, a Peace Action Group was scheduled to conduct picketing in accordance with the Nuclear Test Ban.

SA HAUER reviewed the Journal of Communications and Records, Washington Metropolitan Police Department, on November 27, 1963, and it was noted seven members of a Peace Action Group picketed the front of the White House between 10 a.m., and 12 noon on April 13, 1963, and there were "no incidents". In addition, 15 members of an Iranian student group picketed the White House on April 13, 1963, from 10:40 a.m. to 5:50 p.m., with "no incidents".

Cons. File 49
J. B. O. Report