

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Washington, D. C. May 22, 1964

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The "Deutsche Nationalzeitung und Soldatenzeitung" (German National Newspaper and Soldiers' Newspaper) is a weekly newspaper published in the German language at Munich, Germany. The November 29, 1963, edition of this newspaper carried on its front page an article entitled, "Der merkwuerdige Fall Oswald" (The Strange Case of Oswald). No author for this article was shown. The article may be translated as follows:

"The murderer of Kennedy made an attempt on U. S. General Walker's life early in the summer when General Walker was sitting in his study. The bullet missed Walker's head only by inches. Oswald was seized. The following investigation, as it was reported, was stopped through the influence of the U. S. Attorney General, Robert Kennedy. If Oswald had been investigated, he eventually would have been imprisoned for many years, and so he would not have been in a position to commit the murder of Robert Kennedy's brother, John F. Kennedy."

Also on the front page of the November 29, 1963, issue there appeared as the main article what purported to be a transcript of two telephonic interviews 24 hours apart with General Edwin A. Walker. The text of this article was in question-as 1-answer form, and the newspaper reporter was referred to therein as Hasso Thorsten of the "Deutsche National Zeitung." The report of the interviews, which extended to page four of the issue, contained no reference to the attempt on Walker's life.

A confidential source abroad advised that a source available to it had interviewed a journalist named Helmut Herbert Muench who resides at 58 Eichenstrasse, Hamburg 19, Germany. At that time Muench said that after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, he had telephonically interviewed General Walker and that the results of this interview had been published in the November 29, 1963, issue of the "Deutsche Nationalzeitung und Soldatenzeitung." Muench stated that

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during his interview with Walker, Walker informed him that he, Walker, had been the target of an attempt against his life in the Summer of 1963. The attacker had shot at Walker as Walker was sitting in his study. The bullet had passed through the window and over Walker's head and had imbedded itself in the wall beyond.

About 24 hours following this first telephonic talk with Walker, Muench had again called him from Germany. During that conversation Walker had expressed the opinion that Oswald had been the man who had made the attempt on Walker's life. At the time of this conversation it had already become known that Oswald was believed to have been the assassin of President Kennedy. Muench said that he furnished all of the information from his two conversations with Walker to Dr. Frey, an editor of the "Deutsche Nationalzeitung und Soldatenzeitung: Muench believes that Frey took the references which Walker had made to the attack on him and the expressed opinion of Walker that Oswald had been the attacker and included these in the short article under the title "Der merkwuerdige Fall Oswald," without making any reference to the fact that this information originated with the interviews of Walker which was set out in greater detail in the same issue. Muench expressed the opinion that the second part of the short article which referred to the fact that investigation of Oswald had been stopped by the Attorney General was inserted by Frey on his own initiative.

The confidential source abroad also informed that a second source had confirmed the information obtained from Muench; that is, that the first part of the "Der merkwuerdige Fall Oswald" article had been taken from information obtained from the telephonic interviews with Walker, and that the editor. Dr. Frey, had embellished this short article with the additional comment regarding the alleged action taken by the Attorney General.

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