

PA request and JFK assassination records appeals Harold Weisberg 8/26/79
FBI scientific tests and subsequent litigation
Controlling what Hoover knew

In filing I came across a copy of 62-109090-539 a copy of which I am certain I provided you in connection with earlier appeals, at least relating to the withholding of the records reflecting my alleged contact with Soviet nationals at that embassy.

On rereading it its infidelity to fact, for no apparent reason, strikes me.

I recall the matter very well because it was the first time I was able to get to the Archives after published reports about the AG's executive order transferring everything considered by the Commission to the Archives. I asked Johnson for the results of all the FBI's spectrographic analyses, he phoned Cortlandt Cunningham, who prepared this memo, Jevons to Conrad, and I was with Johnson when Cunningham called him back.

Monstrous trees from little acorns grow, like the subsequent litigation and what flowed from it.

There wasn't time for the Cunningham memo to be written and circulated and for him to receive a response. Moreover, I am certain, and not only from the end of the conversation that I heard, that he did not tell Johnson "the FBI cannot be of assistance to Weisberg in this matter." after all, the FBI's tests were considered by the Commission.

What Johnson told me Cunningham told him was the subsequent official IFBI line, impossible as it is - that all the results were in the FBI Lab record included in the cited report from Dallas (which sent the same thing back to Washington). By the time of the records in question, on and before 11/30/65, all the tests had not been performed.

Why the Director was misled by this polite we-told-him-to-go-to-hell version may not be apparent but he was misled. This is also true of Johnson's position and the nature of my request. Hoover's attention seems to have focused on the exhibits and evidence that Cunningham mentioned.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

1-Mr. Conrad
1-Mr. Cunningham, 7410

TO : Mr. Conrad

DATE: 11/3/66

FROM : R. H. Jevons

1-Office, 7133

SUBJECT: WARREN COMMISSION EXHIBITS

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

On 11/3/66, Mr. Marion Johnson, the Archivist at the National Archives and Records Service who is handling the exhibits and evidence of the Warren Commission, telephonically contacted SA Cortlandt Cunningham of the Laboratory Division.

Mr. Johnson stated that Harold Weisberg, author of "Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report," had requested information regarding the portions of the FBI investigative reports in which the spectrographic examinations were set forth. Mr. Johnson asked if any spectrographic examinations, other than those set forth in the report of SA Robert P. Gemberling dated 11/30/63, at Dallas, were made and reported elsewhere.

Mr. Johnson was told that this matter would be looked into.

Bufiles reveal that Weisberg was summarily fired from the State Department but was later allowed to resign without prejudice and not be restored to his job because of suspected Communist or Communistic sympathies. Bufiles also reveal he has had previous contact with Soviet Nationals at the Russian Embassy. Weisberg has also previously written the Bureau concerning the Warren Report and because of his background, no acknowledgement was made.

RECOMMENDATION:

EX-113

ST-11 REC-57 REC 22

61-10707-529
NOV 21 1966

It is recommended, in view of the above information, that Mr. Johnson be telephonically advised that the FBI cannot be of assistance to Weisberg in this matter.

- 1-Mr. Mohr
- 1-Mr. DeLoach
- 1-Mr. Rosen, Att: Mr. Mallery, 5710
- 1-Mr. Sullivan, Att: Mr. Lenihan, 818 9th & P
- 1-Mr. Wick
- 1-Mr. Raupach

CC:ich (10)

56 NOV 28 1966

I assume we have given all exhibits to the Archives as previously directed by C.S. H

Handwritten notes on left margin:
11/3/66
11/4/66
11/11/66