

671 appeals
JFK assassination records, PA request appeals

Harold Weisberg 8/7/79

The attached Brennan to Sullivan (OHB) 2/21/67 memo is a third-hand report of a phone conversation I had with Malcolm Kilduff, who had been a White House press secretary under JFK. This record, which bears an indexing mark, the copy from the file that cannot be read and any other copies and any record of any distribution and/or distribution copies or versions should have been provided in response to my PA requests but none was.

From what I have observed of FBI practice, and particularly considering the impressive array of top FBI brass to whom this was routed, the information in some form would have been communicated to at least Dallas and New Orleans, neither of which offices provided any relevant record under PA.

That such inconsequential information, if true, was worth the time of so many top officials, is not easy to believe. This leads me to wonder if there was any other record of any kind relating to the call from the Secret Service.

All that is attributed to me is "that the New Orleans reports are true" and that I offered Kilduff access to my own "information along this line." Which report out of New Orleans? Along what line? There was no dearth of contradictory reports from New Orleans and no shortage of inconsistent lines. This kind of memo does not appear to represent the best FBI reporting and I do not see how any higher official could have known what was being talked about - if I had said that. Nor do I see how any one could have failed to make inquiry to learn what I might have said that Bartlett does not say.

This also was two months prior to my first trip to New Orleans.

I had but one conversation with Kilduff that I recall. It related to the Manchester book from which the Kennedy family had not yet disassociated itself. Although Mrs. J. Kennedy appears to have commissioned Manchester's work the actual purpose of my call to Kilduff was to encourage him to use any influence he had to lead to the disassociation of the President's family from the work. After I explained my reasons Kilduff was silent for a moment then told me he would go to New York in a few days, that nobody would know where he would be staying, and how I could reach him. My response was that I had no purpose other than the one I had accomplished, of giving him this Manchester information, and would have no need to get in touch with him. (When Pierre Salinger wrote an intro. to Charles Roberts propaganda Salinger was hardly the one to phone.)

Possibly Kilduff asked me something about New Orleans but I had no Garrison pipeline. Without doubt I offered him access to other information, related to the Manchester book, on which I had done much research and was to do more. So, I'm surprised that nothing about the actual conversation or its purpose is in this memo and am further inclined to believe there should be other versions and/or memos.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen

DATE: 2/21/67

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : D. J. Brennan, Jr. *DJB*

- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Bartlett

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

Assistant to the Director Burrill Peterson, U. S. Secret Service, telephoned Liaison Supervisor Bartlett on 2/21/67 and made reference to the recent articles in the press coming out of New Orleans, Louisiana, alleging new information would be forthcoming concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

Mr. Peterson said that Secret Service Director James J. Rowley received a telephone call on 2/20/67 from Malcolm Kilduff, who was Assistant Press Secretary to the President and was the Acting Press Secretary at Dallas, Texas, on 11/22/63. (Kilduff is now a partner in the public relations firm of Horton & Kilduff, Washington, D. C.). Kilduff reported that he had received a telephone call from Harold Weisberg, Damascus, Maryland, the author of "Whitewash I" and "Whitewash II," two books on the assassination critical of the Warren Commission Report. Weisberg told Kilduff that the New Orleans reports are true and that he was in possession of information along this line if Kilduff desired to review it. Kilduff made no commitment to Weisberg.

Mr. Peterson said Secret Service planned no action, and Kilduff was taking no action and that he was passing on this information to the Bureau for any action we desired.

ACTION:
For information.

EX-113

OHB:rab
(8)

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5/1/67
7/1/67

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