

Ahler, Robert

Oswald
Post-Russian
J

MEMORANDUM

March 13, 1964

TO: All Staff Members
FROM: Mr. Burt W. Griffin

We have encountered four persons who are known by name and have been mistaken, because of their appearance, for Oswald:

1. Robert Ahler
Age 30-35
Height 5'10"
Weight 170 lbs.
Hair Dark blonde curly
Eyes Blue
Complexion Acne
(See Commission Doc. 106.41)
2. Lee Harris
Age 21
Height 5'6"
Weight 135 lbs.
Hair Light brown
Eyes Brown
Complexion Med.
Wore metal-framed glasses
Wore thin mustache
Address: McAllen, Texas
3. Dudley Lee Ferrell
Age 28
Height 5'8½"
Weight 160 lbs.
Hair Dark, receding
Eyes Brown
Address: 1015 San Lorenzo,
Dallas, Texas
(See Commission Doc. 6.323)
4. Larry Crafard aka Curtis Laverne Crafard
Age 22
Height 5'8"
Weight 150 lbs.
Hair Brown
Eyes Brown
Complexion Med.
½" scar center of upper lip
Former employee of Ruby
(See Commission Doc. 84.147)

Oswald's description as obtained from the autopsy includes the following:

Height 5'9"
Weight 150 lbs.
1/16th" abrasion to the left of the middle line upper lip.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover is being requested to provide six copies of appropriate photographs of Harris, Ahler, Crafard and Ferrell, together with a personal history of each, including their activities between September 26, 1963 and January 1, 1964. Please advise me if you have any other names to add to the list.

1/4/60

F and G

Paul's Ohler doc, the Griffin 3/13/64 memo:

If not earlier, at this point avoidance of a "false Oswald" became, I believe, culpable. After this memo, there could be no innocence, least of all in the Odie story and Liebeler's handling in the Report.

paragraph

The concluding ~~paragraph~~ is of more than passing interest:

Hoover is to have provided six pictures, presumably of each;
Hoover is to have provided a personal history of each.

I suggest these might be worth examining, perhaps a Xerox rather than the more costly glosses of the pictures. And how interesting it would be if either or both are misuses!

There is a clear inference, I believe, that G knew or had heard of other cases, viz his last sentence, "have you any names to add to the list". This can be taken as careful parsing. He opens not by saying there are these cases of people being taken for Oswald but that these are "known by name". How many not "known by name" but still known to have existed? we know of a number.

It seems not unfair to suggest that what Griffin was really doing here is not investigating, seeking those who may have posed as LHO, but engaged in defensive activity, closing gaps and answering questions before they were asked.