

Gary, Paul- FBI Oswald file

10/25/69

Yesterday Bud gave me a copy of CD 834, also GAI-FBI and Oswald, R and Test R, and a copy of a staff memo headed "Questions For Federal Bureau of Investigation", with a carbon of Rankin's 5/26/64 letter to Hoover, drafted by Stern and Willens. This memo is of five pages. As yet I have not read it.

The CD834 is Hoover's letter of 5/4/64 to Rankin, listing the content of the FBI Oswald file. It is nine pages. If you do not have it, I'll copy for you. This is Bud's copy of a xerox. It is not a xerox, so he has the original to him or returned a borrowed copy.

It is his belief this inventory of 69 items reflects more FBI and other government interest in Oswald than the Commission represents. I agree, after a too-hasty reading. However, I've been on this all day, have to leave soon, and want to mail what I've already done, so I'll be brief. I have the accumulation of the NY trip to clean up also.

If you want a copy from me, this is in my "Agent Oswald" file. A few things attract my attention because of their formulation. Example, item 3, the FBI's military-service fingerprint card merely "appeared to relate to Oswald". One thinks fingerprints are more positive. (Any marginal markings, if you ask me for a copy, are mine.)

They got the Paris "Legal Attache" (i.e. FBI agent in residence) involved. One of the strange things he did is inform one of his sources "as to the present status of Lee Harvey Oswald" on July 28, 1961. "How business abroad? (Item 24)

There is no reference to any deBruyna report, or one by Quigley, and there are more by Fein than I remember.

It confirms my charge (WWII, Scheherazade) that Hosty did more investigating than he, FBI told Commission, as Marine had claimed. Why did they hide this 10/30/63 Hosty report?

The New Orleans arrest is in several items, and the FBI did investigate it, per se, with letter NO office reporting on 8/21/63. Do we have? Item 54 discloses special interest in Lamont pamphlet. Item 61 is a cablegram of 10/28 giving the name of the Russian official he saw. This, to me indicates he was talking to people and they know who. Item 65 shows that before 11/5 their investigation had extended to Robert and Little Rock and included even his change of address. Interestingly enough, the last Hosty-Paine contact is omitted. This ends with only two 11/19 items after the the report on the 11/1 Paine contact, which is at least incomplete.

The Rankin letter says one of the more important things the Commission is doing is consider "the extent to which various federal law enforcement agencies knew of the activities of Lee Harvey Oswald before the assassination..." The appended questions include some good ones real answers to which I do not recall seeing. In it, Dallas informant T-2 could be the FBI files. It fails to ask for Quigley's report on his interview. Stuckey gave a broadcast on 8/22, so it was on file before the assassination. They want to know the FBI evaluation of the request for the Quigley interview. Question 21 I like: "Why was this information furnished (NO FBI by Ident Div) under FBI number 527 925 D, and not under Oswald's FBI Bureau File Number, which is 105-82555?" Also 23, why didn't the FBI ask the CIA for more when it learned LHO had been to USSR Emb? 26, on the three Hosty invs. (Report says two) asks why three times in 8 days, and did they follow the Paine lead on employment. (They didn't, which indicates the visits had other purposes.) 29 asks about the two "known subversive agents" LHO contacted in the 15 days before ass. 30 is about the Gemberling omissions (279-83, report 2/11/64).