

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Mohr

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT : ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

DATE: December 4, 1963

Reference is made to two newspaper clippings and a United Press International (UPI) ticker as follows: (1) A Washington Daily News story by Jim Lucas dated 12-3-63 captioned "Soviet File Is No Help"; (2) A Washington Evening Star story by Associated Press (AP) writer Sterling F. Green in the 12-3-63 issue captioned "Oswald Alone Shot Kennedy, FBI to Indicate"; and (3) a UPI ticker of 12:22 p. m., dated 12-3-63 which states the FBI report will show no conspiracy involved in the assassination of the President.

Mr. Hoover has commented on the above news items (attached) that he believed no one outside the FBI knew our report would show there was no conspiracy and that "certainly someone is doing too much talking." On the Lucas story, Mr. Hoover said, "Again a leak somewhere."

No one at the FBI Office in Dallas or at FBI Headquarters is giving any information whatever to news media. We have maintained a strict "no comment."

I have taken the matter up with Guthman on several occasions and he steadfastly denies that he is giving out any information. We do know from some of our news media friends that Rosenthal in the Department has done some talking. Some of the same news friends have told us that they are picking up information from other undisclosed sources in the Department of Justice.

ACTION:

For information.

Enclosures

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Jones
- 1 - Mr. Morrell

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PLH ITEM #801

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Nothing New on Oswald

Soviet File Is No Help

By JIM G. LUCAS
Scripps Howard Staff Writer

The Soviet consular file on Lee Harvey Oswald, presumed slayer of President Kennedy, sheds no light on the assassination, it was learned today.

Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin turned over the file to Secretary of State Dean Rusk Saturday. It was sent to the Federal Bureau of Investigation where it still is being studied.

But it has been learned authoritatively that the whole portfolio contains no new information. Mainly, it consists of Oswald's application for a Soviet visa when he went to Russia after his discharge from the Marine Corps in 1959, his work permit, residence papers and copies of

his marriage license. It also contains his application for permission to return to the United States in 1962, and Soviet documents permitting him to leave the country.

WILLINGNESS

The Russians apparently intended to demonstrate their willingness to help solve the slaying. They were not required to turn the papers over, and this Government had not requested them.

As a key to Oswald's possible motives, one source said, "They aren't worth a hill of beans."

The FBI still is investigating the Kennedy assassination and the subsequent murder of Oswald in the Dallas police station by a night club operator, Jack Ruby. It had hoped to complete its work last

week, but there have been delays.

The FBI conclusions will go first to Attorney General Robert Kennedy, and then to President Johnson. Mr. Johnson is expected to forward the report as well as the Soviet file to a seven-man commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren. This group was named last week to "satisfy itself that the truth is known" about both shootings.

Apparently still unanswered are two highly relevant questions—where Oswald got the money to finance a trip to Mexico City in late September and early October, and the whereabouts of a man identifying himself as Bernard Weissman who paid for a hate advertisement in a morning newspaper on the day Mr. Kennedy arrived in Dallas.

IN DEBT

It has been learned that Oswald was in debt, and had not paid any rent on his \$8-a-week room in Dallas. But investigators found \$150 in cash in the room after Oswald was arrested.

Authorities said Oswald spent little, and seldom paid his bills. They said he also drew unemployment compensation during his long periods without work and saved much of that. However, still unanswered was how he could finance his many travels.

Progress of the investigation has been delayed because it has been necessary to check on numerous false leads, it was learned.

- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Again a lead somewhere:
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- The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News _____
- The Evening Star _____
- New York Herald Tribune _____
- New York Journal-American _____
- New York Mirror _____
- New York Daily News _____
- New York Post _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Worker _____
- The New Leader _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- The National Observer _____
- People's World _____
- Date _____

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PLH ITEM #801

Oswald Alone Shot Kennedy, FBI to Indicate

Report Will Say
1st and 3d Shots
Hit President

By STERLING F. GREEN
Associated Press Staff Writer

An exhaustive FBI report now nearly ready for the White House will indicate that Lee Harvey Oswald, a loner all his life, was the lone and unaided assassin of President Kennedy, Government sources said today.

The report will go to President Johnson this week, it was predicted, and Mr. Johnson will forward it promptly to the seven-member investigating commission he named on Friday.

Members of the commission, which is headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, were standing by. They awaited a call from Justice Warren to hold their first meeting and organize the machinery for an inquiry which apparently has no precedent in American history.

Whether the FBI report would be made public before the Warren commission begins its study apparently was not yet decided.

Forecast of Report

Various Government sources said the FBI report, incorporating the findings of the Secret Service and at least a half-dozen other Federal agencies, would indicate that:

1. Oswald, without accomplices, fired three shots at Mr. Kennedy from a self-prepared hideaway at a sixth floor window of the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas as the presidential motorcade passed on November 22.

2. The first and third shots struck the President. Either could have killed him.

3. The second shot missed Mr. Kennedy but struck and seriously wounded Texas Gov. John Connally.

4. About 5 1/2 seconds elapsed between the first shot and the last. Despite questions raised by some rifle experts, Federal agents consider Oswald's bolt-action rifle could have been aimed and fired that rapidly.

5. It has been established that all three shots came from the same direction, behind and slightly to the right of the President's car. This gave the assassin a target moving approximately in the direction of his line of fire, an easier shot than a target moving across it.

6. Ballistics studies reportedly substantiate that the same weapon fired all three shots.

7. Evidence is lacking of any personal acquaintance between Oswald and Jack Rubinstein, alias Jack Ruby, the Dallas nightclub owner who broke through a crowd of spectators and killed the prisoner two days later, as Oswald was about to be transferred from police headquarters in the Dallas City Hall to the county jail.

Report Is Basic Data

The FBI report will be the basic raw material for the Warren commission, but President Johnson instructed it to evaluate "all available information" and empowered it to "conduct any further investigation it deems desirable."

This could include information in the hands of Texas authorities. The State's Attorney General, Waggoner Carr,

has offered full co-operation with the Warren probe.

In Dallas, Mr. Carr said yesterday the State Inquiry will be delayed until the FBI reports, and in any case will not start before next week.

Whether the bipartisan commission, which includes four members of Congress, will ask Congress for power to subpoena witnesses and records is a question that probably will not be decided until the commission has received and studied the FBI report.

Might Go Further

If the members then feel that the basic document should be supplemented by the summoning and hearing of possibly reluctant witnesses, then it must seek legislation, congressional sources said. The presidential order does not in itself confer the subpoena authority.

Official sources indicate the FBI report is working out as expected. The basic document is ready, but agents yesterday still were tracking down belated tips, reports and rumors to make sure that no leads were overlooked.

The report has been described as a narrative in minute detail, sticking to established facts and dismissing, by omission, the dozens of rumors and theories which have been run down and found to be baseless.

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- People's World _____
- Date _____

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