

Donald Gibson
415 Mace St.,
Greensburg, PA 15601

10/5/95

Dear Don,

There is nothing in the part of the paper you sent that could not have been used by all the media some time after four p.m. the day of the assassination. We do not know how much after that but the reference to two hours of interrogation indicates this minimum time. I believe that was well after the 112th - based stories were out, I think.

The best source on that is Paul Hoch, 1725 Acton St., Berkeley, CA 94702. He did make rather a study of it. I'm sure he can pinpoint what they are known to have done.

Lyndon Johnson has to be read with care. He may or may not have intended saying that the first commission proposal to reach him was from Rostow. Rostow may in fact have discussed it with Katzenbach and thus Katzenbach got the idea from him. It did occur to many. Including the Daily Worker. And thus the FBI loved to say that the idea was Communist, from that paper!

Johnson says his commission had to be bipartisan. It was stacked and five GOPs gave them control any time they wanted to use it. The two Democrats were not JFK's people, either. Hardly really bipartisan.

In the absence of confirmation I'm not convinced that Bobby asked him to appoint Dulles and McCloy. I'd not be surprised if Bobby asked nothing of him. And rather than LBJ believing no agency should control the investigation, the first thing he did was to give that job to the FBI. That very evening.

Likewise do I doubt that his Warren story is faithful to the reality.

While I do not know what follows "consensus" on the two pages you sent I am certain that to LBJ that meant rubber-stamp.

Meanwhile, still no indication Rostow was in on the part that said they'd not investigate the crime itself.

Please excuse the haste. Lost almost five hours today by being banished for the house to be treated for carpenter ants.

Glad you found some use for the records you copied. When you are here again I think you should go over the "subject" file. That will take longer but it is by name on each folder.

Best,

Harold



University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

October 2, 1995

Dear Harold,

We were glad to be able to get down to see you again and we enjoyed the visit very much (including the food). I hope you and Lil are doing well.

Enclosed are two items. One is the page from Lyndon Johnson's book that you asked me to send to you. It includes LBJ's statement about the source of the idea of the Warren Commission - i.e., Rostow, Alsop, and Rusk.

The other item is a copy of one of the pages from the newspaper (from Prouty) that I left with you. Would you look again at the information that is there about Oswald and tell^{me} what, if any, items you find interesting because of their (its) availability by early evening on the 22nd.

Sincerely,

Don

Donald Gibson
415 Mace St.
Greensburg, Pa. 15601

PS: Thanks for allowing me to copy the memos and other stuff. A couple of those things will be very important in my future work.

*PPS: One of the board members of COFA invited Norman Mailer to speak!
Truly horrible.*

GREENSBURG, PA. 15601

Arrested Man Lived in Russia

N.Z.P.A.-A.A.P.

DALLAS (Texas), November 22.

POLICE have arrested a man employed at the building where a rifle was found after President Kennedy's assassination, British United Press reported.

The man, reported to be married to a Russian, shot dead a police officer as he was chased into a Dallas cinema.

Had Pistol

The Associated Press of America named the man as Lee H. Oswald, aged 24.

Oswald was armed with a pistol when he was finally overpowered.

After he was subdued he said: "Well, it's all over now."

After being questioned for two hours, Oswald denied any connection with the murder of President Kennedy or the policeman.

Reuter said a Secret Service agent had also been shot from the same distance as the President but no details of this shooting were immediately available.

Oswald was pulled screaming and yelling from the Texas Theatre,

in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas, A.P. said.

A large crowd had congregated around the theatre and saw the arrest.

Police had to hold the crowds back.

Police said Oswald was an employee in the building where the rifle was found following the President's assassination, British United Press reported.

Oswald had defected to the Soviet Union in 1959, it was later learned.

He returned to the United States last year.

He has a Russian wife and a child.

While in the Soviet Union he worked in a Minsk factory.

He went to the Soviet Union following his discharge from the Marines.

While in Russia he apparently became disillusioned with life there.

Soviet authorities gave

him and his family exit permits to return to America.

Oswald was later identified as chairman of a "fair play for Cuba committee."

He became the prime suspect in the assassination of the President.

Shot Dead

Oswald had been chased into the cinema by two policemen.

The officers, J. Tippit and M. Macdonald, had received a tip that the President's assassin might have gone into the cinema.

Tippit was shot dead as he ran into the cinema, British United Press said.

Macdonald grappled with the man and they sprawled over theatre seats.

He received a four-inch laceration across the face before he overpowered the man.

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Harold - Do any of these items surprise you in terms of their availability by the early evening of the 22nd?