

Dear Les,

11/8/84

Relax! I'm not asking you to do anything. Except think how wonderful it was to have that fine time in Europe. (I hope.)

In going over some copies made before I was first operated on and trying to remember why I made those dupes, I saw this one, which I may or may not have sent you when I first got those records. I know of no exception to the rule that when any inquiry is made a self-serving record is generated. It is not as usual to get to a case agent. Generally calls are shifted to the SAC or his designee.

What you phoned about has always been a sensitive matter for the FBI and they've always gotten away with a transparent cover story. Their investigation was for the Commission, and it did not know what was on those pages omitted from the very many provided by the FBI, the only omission. While we'll never know the real reason, what is most obvious is that a) Oswald knew who Hosty was and b) gave him a threatening letter that everyone in the FBI hierarchy knew about before it was ordered to be destroyed after JFK was killed. Then the FBI's fiction, which it again got away with, was that it hadn't told the Dallas police about Oswald's presence because the FBI had no reason to believe he was capable of violence. Indeed, how could he have been when all he did was threaten to blow up their offices?

So, in the event I didn't send it earlier, for your file.

The other record may or may not be related. From the times it can be and I suspect, given the FBI's apprehensions about anything it did not itself plant, that there is a relationship.

The file number is the Dallas main JFK assassination file. NR means Not Recorded. Or, the record filing of the record relating to the transmission by facsimile is in another file. Because this copy is in the main assassination file, I believe that the record filing is in a main file on you, the column or both, in the 94 classification, which is where they put all those kinds of records to frustrate searches because the file means "Research Matters."

I've never met or spoken to Jack or any of his present associates so when you were abroad there were a couple of possibilities about which I did nothing. You know those who specialize in the CIA and if you believe it worthwhile you can pass this along to them:

Two unexpected disasters forced the CIA to create on-the-spot cover stories that do not stack. The first relates to its proscribed activities in Nicaragua, the second to El Salvador.

A military chopper was shot down by the Nicaraguans or had engine trouble and the Americans in it died. They were soldier-of-fortune types. In the course of tracing them the Post had a story reporting that they were in a "surplus" DoD plane that originated at a Dupont-owned airfield near a small town south of Wilmington and not far above the center of the State. It was explained that the company did specialized electronics work and that the runway had been enlarged under a federal grant to relieve traffic pressures at the Philadelphia airport from executive-type planes. This is poor fiction.

For one thing, much too far from Philadelphia, even its southern extreme, where its main commercial airport is. For another, if half the old small airports close to Philadelphia were developed into housing, commercial or industrial buildings, there must still be quite a number very much closer to any part of that large city (21 miles long), plus some just across the river in or near Camden, served by a number of large bridges which, in turn, feed into expressways or their equivalent in Phila. Camden used to have an airport and I knew very well what Wilmington does and it is underused. So, at the very worst, the existing modern Wilmington airport is much closer to any part of Philadelphia and thus there was no need for spending federal

money in the more remote sticks of Delaware where, it just happens, a service perfectly suited for spookery is based. (The Wilmington airport is on the main N-S highway in Delaware, a multi-lane divided road just a few minutes from I95, which goes to the Phila. airport and past it, through Phila as I understand it. I've not been on it past the Phila. airport.)

There also was some kind of hankypanky with the CIA's use of the DoD plane in apparent violation of a specific law intended to preclude such tricks.

An admitted CIA plane crashed into a volcano in El Salvador. First accounts had it 21 miles from the capital city and engaged in nighttime following of planes bringing arms to the guerrillas from Nicaragua. Then it was admitted that this was the wrong volcano, that the one it hit was four miles from that city. Then it was admitted the distance was only two miles.

If it were not a fiction that the Nicaraguans were flying arms into El Salvador, as I am certain it is, it simply cannot be true that they would be ignorant or stupid enough to do this via the capital city. Meanwhile, the Salvadoran military kept all reporters, including our's, from getting even to the vicinity of the downed plane.

While it is my own opinion from following such things that it is not likely that Nicaragua has any significant surplus in any kind of arms and thus is not the probable supplier, entirely aside from this why would they run the many risks of night flying and dropping when there is all that coastline and all those overland means of doing the same thing?

While I obviously have no proof of anything, I believe the most obvious suspicion is that the CIA plane was in open, deliberate violation of the law when, for whatever reason, it crashed so close to the major city, and that it was using the kind of infra-red equipment developed for use in VN to track/locate guerrillas.

If there had been any really sensitive equipment in the plane, as in the cover story and my belief there may have been, that accounts only for keeping the reporters from having access to the equipment. That is no reason for keeping them far away from the plane. And identification of it, which means tracing its ownership, type, capabilities, the kind of things in which reporters and the people have legitimate interest that does not jeopardize national security.

So, I think there are possibilities in both matters for the column.

Best wishes,



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

DATE: 10/23/75

SAC, DALLAS (89-43)

FROM :

SA ROBERT P. GEMBERLING

SUBJECT:

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS,
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
AFO

At 2:23 PM, 10/23/75, I received a long distance telephone call (apparently from Washington, D.C.) from an individual identifying himself as LES WHITTEN (ph), who identified himself as being with columnist JACK ANDERSON.

MR. WHITTEN stated that he had been reviewing records at the Archives on 10/22/75, and had located an affidavit of mine dealing with HOSTY's name not being included as part of OSWALD's address book, and wanted to know if I would still stand on the affidavit.

I advised MR. WHITTEN I most certainly would stand on what I had said at that time and would have no further comment since I was still a Special Agent of the FBI and felt any inquiries should be channeled through FBI Headquarters.

MR. WHITTEN stated he thought I would probably feel that way but wanted to give me an opportunity to comment. The conversation was then terminated.

*4:13 pm 10/23/75 Mr. Brown, and...
telephone 2-202-324-2820...
phone of the...
It is my belief that MR. WHITTEN is probably referring to the fact that when the contents of OSWALD's address book were first included in communications to the Bureau, the fact that HOSTY's name and license number and Dallas Office telephone number were therein was not originally included. Subsequent thereto, we included the entire contents of the address book in appropriate reports. I do not specifically recall but apparently I must have given an affidavit explaining why I did not include HOSTY's name, license number and Dallas Office telephone number in the original reporting.*

2-Dallas (1-100-10461) (89-43)

RPG:nc (2)

DL 89-43

It is my recollection that this point was discussed with the Bureau and the reason for us not having included it originally, was because a review was made of OSWALD's address book for the purpose of setting out leads to identify all names therein, which we did not already know the meaning. Since we knew HOSTY's name, his Bureau car license number and the Dallas Office telephone number, we did not need to set any leads out to have this resolved.

It should be noted that the entire address book was included in either a report or letterhead memorandum and furnished to the Bureau for dissemination to the Warren Commission.

Transmit attached by Facsimile PLAINTEXT

Priority Immediate

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

Date: 10/23/75

From: SAC, DALLAS

Time Transmitted: 2:47 PM - 3:47 PM

Subject: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY (89-43)

Initials - MBT

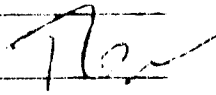
Fingerprint Photo Fingerprint Record Map Newspaper clipping Photograph

Artists Conception Other: _____

Special handling instructions:

HAND CARRY one set each to Assoc. Director ADAMS and Asst. Dir. BASSETT.

Approved: _____



89-43-
NR