

1/14/69

Paul Hoch disagrees with my 1/1/69 interpretation and cites logical reasons. I disagree because of what I have seen in the files and what I know from outside them.

If there is any one man not lacking for copies, he is Wesley J. Liebeler, who today is still loaded with microfilm. Toward the end of the period before the Report went to press, each chapter was the responsibility of assigned staff members. Every staff member working on the Report had a copy. In the event one of them noted the absence of this leaflet, or any copy of it, there was no problem getting it inside the Commission offices - from the file clerk or the lawyer in charge.

Liebeler knew all about the 544 address and its significance. The tape Burton made of him 5/4/67 discloses this, in great detail, including the connection of Ferrie with it. Yet he left this out of the Report and failed to call Ferrie, saying on this tape the decision was his alone.

Moreover, everyone on the staff of the Commission knew that the FBI had all the originals sent to Washington. The easy way was to ask the FBI.

With Moore a liaison with the Commission, Moore certainly knew that if the SS had the pamphlet it could be obtained from the DC office.

The 26 were largely assembled by those who worked on different parts of the case. Each knew what his part had, what the relevant files contained. While there may have been some overlapping, some underinformed people helping out, in any case I can imagine, each would have known his area expert, each would have had no difficulty locating a copy locally.

But if take Hoch's one suspicion, over the failure of the FBI to call back on this, what does that indicate? That they were ignoring the Commission? More likely that they had something they didn't want said. What is most likely about this? The carefully-hidden thing, that the FBI knew Oswald used the address 544 Camp before the assassination and conducted only fake investigations of it afterward, knowing the significance of the address.

Were I to conjecture more, I'd say the single member of the staff whose area was best known to others is Liebeler, who is the kind who I think would have seen to it. In any event, if he did that part, he knew; and if he didn't, whoever did know to ask Liebeler, who could have produced the pamphlet pronto. Consistent with this is Devine's otherwise pointless refusal to supply a copy of the Quigley pamphlet, were it identical with the others, his initial fudging in his responses to Hoch. I think what Hoch has accomplished with Devine is quite significant.

Normal channels, I believe, would have been to ask this of the FBI. It may be significant that the request was not made of the FBI. Again to conjecture, the staff member making the request wanted to know if the 544 Camp St. address were there. If this were Liebeler, I would think so even more, for he certainly did know about that address. I cannot conceive of his being but ten blocks or so away and not being curious enough to take a peek at the area about which he was taking testimony.