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POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION OF
WILLIAM S. WALTER

The 10/1/75 edition of the "Dallas Times Herald" newspaper contained an article (copy attached) setting forth information that William S. Walter on September 11, 1975, underwent a polygraph examination concerning his statements about the alleged teletype's existence. The report of the examiner commissioned by the newspaper stated in part: "Although . . . Mr. Walter's polygraph charts contain criteria indicative of deception it is the examiner's position that the polygraph examination is inconclusive."

Employee says FBI issued

The Dallas Times Herald

10/1/75

warning on JFK plot

During his visit to Dallas on Sept. 11, Walter underwent a polygraph examination concerning his statements about the alleged teletype's existence, but the expert examiner concluded the test results were inconclusive.

The examiner's report, commissioned by this newspaper, stated in part: "Although ... Mr. Walter's polygraph charts contain criteria indicative of deception it is the examiner's position that the polygraph examination

is inconclusive."

The examiner, William B. Burnham, stated in the report that the indications of deception in Walter's chart may have been caused by the potentially incriminating questions.

The questions posed to Walter were:

"Did you actually receive an official teletype at the New Orleans FBI office on Nov. 17, 1963, alerting the FBI to a possible assassination of the president in Dallas?"

"To the best of your knowledge was this an authentic teletype transmitted from the FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C.?"

Walter answered "yes" to both questions.

At Walter's request, he was examined only as to his personal knowledge of the alleged teletype and whether he believed it to be authentic. Other relevant questions, those concerning his actual possession of the purported document, were deleted from the examination.

Originally, Walter was to have been questioned at length in conjunction with a photostat of the alleged teletype, but he failed to provide the copy during his visit and has not delivered it yet.

Mention of the alleged teletype surfaced briefly in 1968 during New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's unsuccessful attempt to investigate and his alleged role in a conspiracy to prosecute businessman Clay Shaw for his alleged role in a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy, which Garrison claimed was hatched in New Orleans.

At that time, Garrison appeared during a network television program with an affidavit from Mark Lane, a self-styled assassination investigator, which stated such a teletype had moved from FBI headquarters five days before Kennedy's death.

The affidavit stated Lane had spoken with Walter in late 1967 and that the ex-FBI employe told him of the message. Lane repeated this in a Washington press conference Tuesday.

But Walter told The Times Herald he never disclosed the teletype's existence to Lane, and that shortly after he heard of the Garrison remarks he voluntarily appeared in the New Orleans FBI office to deny any part of the incident.

The FBI, however, initiated an investigation of Garrison's statement, according to FBI sources, and eventually interviewed 53 agents and other personnel in the office. The probe turned up no evidence to substantiate the allegations, FBI officials have stated.

According to FBI Director Clarence M. Kelly's statement Tuesday, Walter also stated to agency officials and the New Orleans U.S. Attorney, Louis LaCour, in 1968 that he had no

knowledge of nor did he have possession of such a document.

Walter asserted, however, that in the 1968 investigation he was never questioned about whether the Lane and Garrison remarks were true, only about his possible role as the source of the affidavit.

Walter last Wednesday personally delivered his allegations to FBI Deputy Associate Director James B. Adams during a conference telephone call routed through The Times Herald switchboard.

"I will swear to a grand jury, to Clarence Kelley or to anyone else that I did receive a teletype," Walter said. "It was dated Nov. 17, 1963 and it did say there would be an attempt on Kennedy's life in Dallas."

"I do know, of personal knowledge, other individuals in the New Orleans office who saw this, helped me find it and discussed it with me. We can go to grand juries until we're blue in the face."

Adams replied the FBI would like to take Walter's statements down under oath.

"You've made the offer that you'll say all this under oath," Adams said to Walter. "I'd like to arrange through your attorney that I accept his offer to make these statements under oath. And since you're making the allegations again, I'd like to have another interview with you."

Walter, contacted by newsmen Tuesday night after the CBS program, said "I told him (Adams) I didn't need immunity — that I had nothing to hide. It looked then as though they were agreeing it (the message) could be a possibility and that they wanted to cooperate."

Published reports have stated that Senate and House committees of Congress also intent to question Walter about the alleged teletype's existence.

Sen. Richard Schweiker, a Republican member of the Senate Committee on Intelligence Activities, said he would look into the matter within the next two weeks.

It was unclear whether the House Committee on Intelligence would act on the information.

Walter told The Times Herald during the Sept. 7 interview that he personally received the teletype in the early morning hours of Nov. 17, 1963 and immediately contacted five high-level FBI agents to make them aware of the message.

Walter also furnished The Times Herald names of four other FBI employes with whom he claims to have discussed the teletype's existence shortly after the assassination.

When contacted about the matter all said they had no recollection of discussing the matter with Walter, two of them even stating they believed the

account had been fabricated.

Special agents in charge of the New Orleans bureau in 1963 and at present have both denied in wire service reports the existence of such a teletype message.

Harry Maynor, special agent in charge in 1963 and now a security executive in New York City, said he had no "recollection along those lines. Nothing similar to that happened ... I can't say it is incorrect."

(11)

WILLIAM S. WALTER ALLEGATIONS
EFFORTS BY FBI TO RESOLVE

Investigation 1968:

Upon learning of the allegations of William S. Walter of the existence of a teletype to all Southern offices of the FBI on 11/17/63 warning of a planned assassination attempt on President Kennedy at Dallas, Texas, on 11/22/63, an extensive search of FBIHQ records was instituted. This search failed to locate any information or communications indicating a planned assassination attempt as alleged against President Kennedy in Dallas, Texas. No record could be located of any teletype to all offices, groups of offices, or an individual office in this regard. Likewise, no records could be located indicating any teletype emanated from FBIHQ to New Orleans on 11/17/63. *
over 50

In addition, in 1968, fifty-four employees of the New Orleans Office, who were so employed 11/17/63, were interviewed and none had knowledge of the alleged teletype. Included in the interviews was that of former Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Maynor who stated he had no knowledge of the teletype.

Walter was one of three Security Patrol Clerks (SPC) attached to the New Orleans Office on the date in question. The other two SPCs were interviewed and they had no knowledge of the teletype. One of these SPCs would have worked the shift from 4:15 pm 11/16/63 to 12:15 am 11/17/63. and again from. (2)

and succeeding to Walter's shift. Normal procedure dictates the SPC on duty brief the SPC relieving him on important matters arising on each shift.

Investigation 1975:

After this issue was raised anew, a recheck was made of FBIHQ records in an effort to locate the alleged teletype. This recheck failed to disclose any such teletype. In addition, all 59 field offices of the FBI checked their indices and appropriate files and advised FBIHQ they were unable to locate any such teletype or one similar thereto. SAC Warren deBrueys (San Juan Office) who was assigned as a Special Agent to the New Orleans Office during the pertinent period has advised that he has no knowledge of the alleged teletype.

WILLIAM S. WALTER ALLEGATIONS
CHRONOLOGY

1/31/68

Jim Garrison appeared on Johnny Carson TV Show and alleged Mark Lane had obtained sworn statement from Walter stating Walter had on 11/17/63 received teletype to all Southern Offices of FBI regarding planned assassination attempt on President Kennedy at Dallas, Texas, on 11/22/63. Further Walter called SAC, New Orleans who instructed Walter to notify a number of Agents to maintain contact with informants.

Additionally, another FBI directive ordered New Orleans Office to examine interview reports in Kennedy assassination investigation to insure no conflicts contained therein. Agents were ordered to resolve conflicts, prepare new reports and destroy old ones.

2/1/68

Walter at own initiation personally contacted SAC, Jacksonville and denied Garrison's allegations stating he never received or saw such a teletype or other message and denied furnishing affidavit or signed statement of any kind to Lane. He also denied telling Lane or any others regarding alleged FBI directive to examine interview reports.

2/2/68

Walter contacted New Orleans FBI Office and denied statements attributed to him on Johnny Carson TV Show.

3/15/68

Walter with his attorney, Guy Wooten, visited office of U. S. Attorney, New Orleans, and stated recalls receiving teletype on 11/17/63 from FBIHQ regarding planned assassination attempt on President Kennedy during his trip to Texas and probably notified SAC Maynor of its receipt. He stated he does not have a copy of the teletype; he did not give a copy to Lane and does not know who would have such a copy.

3/26/68

Walter advised Nashville FBI Agents he received teletype in question 11/17/63 and knows of other clerical employees who knew of receipt of teletype but would not identify them nor would he sign statement.

5/16/68

Walter interviewed by FBI Agents at Nashville, Tennessee, and emphatically denied having any Government document or copy of such a document relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. He also denied ever making copies of Government documents.

September
1975

Walter variously claimed to newspaper
representatives in Dallas, Texas, the following:

- 1) He removed teletype from FBI files at
New Orleans.
- 2) He typed a copy from the original while in the
FBI Office.
- 3) He has presently under his control, the original
of this document which he took from FBI files.
- 4) His lawyer in Louisiana has a Xerox copy of
this teletype.
- 5) The original copy is in a locked box somewhere
in the vicinity of New Orleans.

9/22/75

Walter advised newspaper representatives in Dallas,
Texas, he had copy of the teletype but was
concerned over possible prosecutive action because
of possessing it.

9/23/75

Department of Justice authorized granting immunity
to Walter for possessing, purloining or not
previously making available teletype providing he
promptly make it available at this time.

Deputy Associate Director J. B. Adams telephonically
advised Walter of this grant of immunity. In response,
Walter stated he was not claiming to have possession of
any official documents.

9/24/75

Walter's attorney advised Mr. Adams that Walter does not have a Government copy of the teletype but has an exact replica. He said he would contact Walter about furnishing the replica to the FBI as well as furnishing the names of everyone Walter now claims had possession or personal knowledge of the teletype and would advise Mr. Adams of Walter's decision.

No contact has been made by the attorney or Walter with Mr. Adams since 9/24/75.