

Prospective witnesses- Lt. George Butler

1/4/68

Although not a Desley Plaza witness, Butler is important in a number of areas. I have never spoken to him but I have some knowledge of some of the things he knows. I am told he has been demoted, to the jail. Interest is especially flagged because, with all the things he did know, of all the areas in which he was important, he was never called by the Commission. Belatedly, I am now searching for the documents on him.

Above all he should have been a witness because it is he who gave the all-clear signal for moving Oswald when it was not clear, when the arrangements had not been completed. This alone made it possible for Ruby to stand in the unobstructed one place from which he had a clear shot. It is the testimony, I think of Deen, perhaps Fritz, that had the car been in the place it was supposed to have been when it was ready to receive Oswald, it would have been where Ruby was.

He was a sort of internal-security chief under the cover of the juvenile bureau, according to some of my local Dallas sources. He was privy to threats to kill the President that I have in my unpublished book *COUP D'ETAT*.

He was in on a part of the Odio story, of which you have the tape in my Castorr interview with Dick Billings and subsequent memos. When Odio was staying with the Jack Rogerses, she got letters from Lucille Connell, then in Boston, that she left behind. Mrs. Joann Rogers was concerned about these letters and consulted Trudy Castorr, who recommended she take them to Butler. Trudy made the introduction. Also, there was a rather loud woman named Ramos who had a yarn about being offered a large sum of money for her knowledge of the assassination. Trudy took her to Butler also. This led to problems in the Butler household, his wife developing suspicions about Mrs. Ramos who was then, I believe, separated from her husband.

With his internal-security responsibilities, Butler has to have much knowledge of the inside of the police department. He was favorable to and praised the John Birch Society, spoke before the "National Indignation Congress", was and presumably still is a real radical-right extremist.

If I can again return to Texas, he is one of the two of the police involved in the assassination story who I above all other want to interview. The other is Jack Fevill.