

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (89-43)

DATE: 11/23/63

FROM : SAC SHANKLIN

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS 11/22/63
AFO

On the morning of 11/23/63 Assistant to the Director C. D. DeLOACH called and stated that Chief of Police JESSE CURRY had just been on national television and that he had indicated (1) that the FBI had recently interviewed LEE HARVEY OSWALD in Dallas; however, we had not notified the Dallas Police; (2) that the FBI had OSWALD under surveillance but had not notified the Dallas Police; (3) that the FBI customarily advises the Dallas PD whenever an individual of subversive background arrives in Dallas. DeLOACH stated that the Director had also seen that television program and that CURRY apparently was trying to switch the blame to the FBI. DeLOACH advised me to contact CURRY and straighten him out and see that he went back on TV and corrected these erroneous statements.

I thereafter got Chief CURRY on the phone and pointed out to him that we were not denying that we knew OSWALD was in Dallas, but that we had not interviewed OSWALD in Dallas and that we had not had OSWALD under surveillance, and that we were under no obligation, as he was apparently indicating, to furnish him information on all Security subjects in the area; that we had no indication that OSWALD was a potential killer and that we had been extending to him full cooperation, and that I felt that he should certainly set the record straight. I also asked CURRY where he had gotten his information and he told me that he could not remember who had told him, but that someone had mentioned it and that he had no personal knowledge of any of this, but that the next time he was on television, he would rectify this error.

ADDENDUM: It is noted that Chief CURRY did appear on television later the same day and generally retracted his statements, although I did not have an opportunity to actually hear it. The Dallas Times Herald of 11/23/63 reported that Chief CURRY minimized reports of FBI lack of cooperation with local Police. He said that he had been told that the FBI had

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of OSWALD's presence in Dallas and interviewing him recently, but that the Dallas PD had not been advised. He, however, later is supposed to have said he was only repeating information that someone had told him and he could not remember who had told him Friday night. He said he had no personal knowledge that the FBI knew of OSWALD's presence here or that the FBI had questioned OSWALD. "In any event the FBI has no obligation to come to us", Chief CURRY said, "They are cooperating with us one hundred percent."