

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

FROM : Mr. D. J. Brennan, Jr. *DJB*

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

DATE: 2/13/64

Tolson	
DeLoach	
Mohr	
Bishop	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	<i>WCS</i>
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

Reference is made to the memorandum from Mr. Rosen to Mr. Belmont dated 2/13/64, in the above-captioned matter. Referenced memorandum furnished the Director with details concerning the incident at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Texas, on 11/22/63, involving SA J. Doyle Williams of the Dallas Office who was stopped by two Secret Service Agents who were on duty in the corridor adjacent to the room where President Kennedy died.

The Director approved the recommendation that Liaison should take up this entire situation with Chief Rowley of the U. S. Secret Service (USSS) and express our displeasure over the handling of this matter by agents of his service.

On 2/13/64, Liaison Agent Bartlett called on Mr. James J. Rowley, Chief, USSS, and related to him the facts concerning this incident and expressed the Bureau's displeasure and concern over the handling of this situation by two USSS Agents. It was clearly pointed out to Mr. Rowley that our Agent was at the hospital on official business and with express instructions from the Director to assist in any way that the FBI could. It was further pointed out that SA Williams had clearly identified himself and had left the pertinent area of the hospital to use a telephone in another part of the building and in doing so identified himself on several occasions; that when Agent Williams returned to the area outside the President's door where he previously had been, he was following the Chief Nurse, Mrs. Nelson, who announced to the Secret Service Agents that a Special Agent of the FBI was with her and that at this moment two Secret Service Agents, in restraining our Agent, knocked him to the floor. Mr. Rowley was advised that this action on the part of his men was totally unnecessary.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Bartlett

OHB:chs
(9) *chs*

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Section 46

UNRECORDED COPY FILED

Mr. Brennan to Mr. Sullivan
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY, 11/22/63,
DALLAS, TEXAS

Mr. Rowley asked that his sincere apologies be relayed to the Director and that he is sincerely sorry that this incident occurred. He advised that he knows full well that FBI Agents are extremely careful in identifying themselves and that he attributes the action on the part of his men to the tenseness of the situation at the moment. Mr. Rowley said that at the moment this incident took place, it was very possible that his men did not know that the President was actually dead and therefore the possibility that an accomplice of the assassin could have tried to enter the hospital and "finish the job" existed.

Mr. Rowley then recounted that the feeling of cooperation between the Bureau and the USSS, including the working Agents, has never been better than it is at the present time. He assured Liaison Agent Bartlett that he will do everything in his power to maintain full cooperation with the Bureau.

ACTION:

For information.

WEL

good

just

OKR

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: February 4, 1964

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: BOOK ENTITLED "FOUR DAYS"
ON ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

BACKGROUND: Both the United Press International (UPI) book "Four Days" and the Associated Press (AP) book "The torch is passed," which cover events surrounding the assassination of the late President, contain reference to an FBI Agent being stopped in one of the corridors by Secret Service men in the Parkland Memorial Hospital the afternoon of the assassination, November 22, 1963.

On Page 25 of the UPI book it is stated, "Suddenly two Secret Service men burst into the room. One of them, his face contorted with anguish, was waving a submachine gun. Staff members dived for cover. A man in a business suit dashed in; the agent slammed him against the wall with one punch. Dazed, the man pulled out F.B.I. credentials and gasped, 'I've got to call J. Edgar Hoover.' A moment later the President and Governor Connally were carried into the hospital...."

The AP book states on Page 14, next to the last paragraph, "Moments before the President arrived at the emergency entrance, a Secret Service agent, face lined with emotion, had dashed in with a submachine gun..... A man in a business suit ran in and the agent slugged him on the jaw before the man, sinking to the floor, could bring out the card that identified him as an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

Lyle Wilson, of UPI, when we questioned the accuracy of his Dallas UPI reporter, Bryce Miller, advised us that a Dr. Crenshaw had said he had not found any person who could say he actually saw the blow struck. Miller claimed that two interns, Dr. Gerald E. Gustason and Dr. Wayne E. Delaney, saw the Agent struggling and "a city cop standing there explained that the Agent had been slugged."

On Mr. Jones' memorandum to me dated 2-3-64 in captioned matter, the Director asked "Why don't we nail down Drs. Gustason and Delaney as to their story?"

OBSERVATION: Both the UPI and the AP account (above) relating to an FBI man being slugged, placed the incident as occurring moments before the President and Governor Connally were carried into the hospital. We have made a check and determined that this

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - M. A. Jones

REW:amr

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Section 46

C. D. DeLoach to Mr. Mohr Memorandum
Re: Book Entitled "Four Days" on Assassination
of President Kennedy, United Press International

is absolutely false because we had no men there at the time. The first FBI man to arrive on the scene arrived approximately 10 minutes after the President and Governor Connally were brought in. This man, SA Vincent Drain, called SAC Shanklin with a definite word the President was dead. SA Drain had no difficulty with Secret Service, there was full cooperation, and he was in the emergency room occupied by the President with a doctor known to him. Governor Connally was in a room across the corridor.

FBI men were present in the hospital beginning at about 10 minutes after the President was brought in. Secret Service men were present in abundance. Bedlam had broken loose in the corridors. It was utter chaos and confusion. The corridors were jammed with people, consisting of doctors, hospital personnel, etc., going in and out of swinging doors in the area of the two emergency rooms.

We have determined that one of our FBI Agents was stopped by Secret Service at a swinging door through which he attempted to pass to a telephone. The FBI Agent was not "slugged on the jaw" or "slammed against the wall with one punch." It is known, however, he was stopped by Secret Service, as were countless other people.

As pointed out above by Dr. Crenshaw, the latter could not find anyone who saw a blow struck and the two interns say they saw the Agent struggling to get up from the floor. It is possible the doctors confused the man on the floor immediately before the President was brought in with the FBI Agent stopped some time later (10 to 15 minutes) by Secret Service. After a very careful analysis of the mixed up circumstances here, it is believed that since Dr. Crenshaw has questioned the doctors and UPI reporter Bryce Miller has questioned them, we will come up with the same confused story if we were to question them.

The fact remains there was no frictional differences between the FBI and Secret Service the afternoon of 11-22-63 at the hospital, there was full cooperation and there has been no difficulty whatever. Both UPI and AP will omit references to the above incident in future printings. Lyle Wilson states there is little likelihood of another print order of the book.

RECOMMENDATION:

That no further action in this matter be taken.

SAC Shanklin
told by Mike 2/15/64
to have them interviewed
& send in teletype with
he did 2-6-64

I still think Quetzalcoatl
& DeLoach should put up
on shunt. P. B. B.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 2-3-64

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: BOOK ENTITLED "FOUR DAYS"
ON ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
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Holmes _____
Gandy _____

With respect to the above-captioned book which contained a reference that a Secret Service Agent allegedly had an altercation with an FBI Agent in the Parkland Memorial Hospital on 11-22-63, Lyle C. Wilson, Vice President of UPI, has been in touch with you with respect to our protest about the reference to the FBI.

Mr. Wilson forwarded under date of 1-29-64 a copy of a message to him from his New York Office identifying a Dr. Wayne E. Delaney who said that he had seen the alleged incident in the Hospital. Mr. Wilson has also advised that his firm in New York does not believe there will be another printing of the book but that if there were one it would not contain the reference to the alleged slugging incident. While he expressed regrets about it in his contacts with you, there is little likelihood we can do anything else about the damage already done.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Suttler

JMM:bsp

(5)

Why don't we mail
copy Dr. Gustason
& Delaney and their
story?

FEB 17 1964

57 FEB 19 1964

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FEB 14 1964

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