

8/13/95

Cartha DeLoach's Hoover's FBI is that to the limit degree ~~is~~ necessary for ^{DeLoach} DeLoach to talk about DeLoach and the get vengeance on his and Hoover's enemies. The real purpose of the book seems to be vengeance and self-justification and that requires defending Hoover and the FBI and the dishonesties of all the many kinds so blatant in his many memos I have. While he prefers not to lie and instead omits and distorts he is not only capable of deliberate lying as his memos show he does that with gusto and macho.

I do not take the time ^{to} definitive commentary. In reading it I first made copies of a few pages, then copied his chapters on the JFK assassination and on Jack Ruby and then decided that the book is not worth more time. I did annotate the JFK chapter.

Early on he tries to build sympathy for Hoover and the FBI by saying what is ~~not~~ so, that "they had been ^{bitterly} criticized for failing to stop Lee Harvey Oswald." That was Hoover's fear but it was not the fact. The criticism was based on their not telling the Dallas police or the Secret Service of Oswald's presence in Dallas and that criticism is based on the assumptions of the official mythology (page 5)

On page 15 he quotes Attorney General (Late Justice) Stone on the dangers inherent in a national police, pretending that Hoover shared those views and the FBI is not our form of national police.

He says (page 18) that the FBI had no authority to "interject" itself into the JFK assassination but in fact once asked by the President as Hoover testified it did have that legal right. What he does not say, and he knew because he was the note-taker, is that Hoover immediately entered the case illegally and boasted of that to William Manchester. "We had to fight the Dallas police Department every step of the way," he says, despite the fact that from the very first the police turned all the so-called evidence over to it.

He says Hoover's were "The Secret Files that weren't," chapter title. There were in fact more than he lies about, those in Hoover's office (page 29). He claims that they were only about a drawer and a half. In fact, ^{Heleb Hoover's secretary} Gandy testified to the quantity of them she destroyed. He denies the blackmail charges by some in Congress but the truth of that is disclosed officially and DeLoach was a specialist in it for Hoover.

"The central files were in an area open to virtually the entire bureau staff and were used many times every day by a variety of people..." The "area" may have been open but the files were not. We were told in the FOIA cases that access to them was restricted to the file clerks, that search requests had to be in writing, and I have a number of them

"We tried to purge these records periodically, but with the growth of the bureau's activities it was a losing battle." (page 30) How little of a fight that was

is reflected by the fact that about 1990 I got FBI records relating to CLICK magazine that are of the early 1930s and had nothing to do with any law violations. The magazine has closed up more than 40 years earlier.

At this point he is untruthful about the content of Hoover's "Official and Confidential" files. *(He makes no mention of those marked "Presumably Confidential.")*

There is an unintended DeLoach description of himself as an FBI agent and as an enemy of domestic fascism (page 87) where he says he was assigned to the "Atomic Energy-Application Section of the Domestic Intelligence Division" (certainly that does not suggest national police, does it?). My duty was to supervise field office investigations of people seeking employment inside the atomic energy operations; for example truck drivers." In that role he did not block ~~the~~ employment of David D. Wayne, who had been the Washington representative of William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirts and who had ~~he~~ entered guilty pleas to two felonies. He was waiting at ~~Los~~ Alamos when the FBI interviewed me about him.

In his assassination chapter he is as cute as in his memo, taking credit for the FBI for what it had nothing at all to do with, ^{report my} the threat to JFK at Denton, Texas. He is careful not to identify those who made the threats, GOP college kids. (page 114) His lies about Hosty and the files he had begin here.

To him Oswald was "a practised marksman," when he was not known ever to have fired that rifle ever (page 115). At the same point he says that Hoover's offer to the police of "the full services of our laboratory and fingerprint division" was "an offer he ~~was an offer he~~ would shortly regret." In fact without that Hoover could not have asserted the control he did assert through doing the lab work so dishonestly.

He says (page 119) that Vince Drain "stood by ~~him~~ as the doctors" worked on JFK. Drain was not there then and the first agent who was was floored by the Secret Service when he tried to rush into the emergency room without showing credentials. He has a distorted account of this later.

He says the reports of an entrance wound in the front of the neck ^{were} by "sensationalists" and "was absolutely false." It was by the Dallas doctors and it was quite true, with all the phony evidence presented by the FBI being what was false.

He has other obvious factual errors here, like Robert MacNeil showing Oswald what Oswald took as Secret Service credentials when he ask Oswald where he had find a phone and saying what may well have been true but is not the official story, that rather than take the bus, which made no sense at all, Oswald took a cab. I skip most of these false statements, but I do note that he knows it is a lie (page 122) that the Dallas ^{ov} files held "nothing that would indicate that Oswald was capable of shooting anyone." There was the inspector general's report on the Oswald threat ^{and} the fact that their own reports said he had beaten his wife. His following account of the Hosty effort to interrogate Oswald is - think wrong, ^{beside} that Oswald refused to talk to him immediately.

This is again relevant, this omission of what the FBI knew very well, on 125.

The FBI agent who flew evidence to DC the night of the assassination did not have "with him a box that contained three fragments of the president's skull" of which "Two had been found inside the car and one in the gutter on Elm Street" (page 128),

Of the bullet from the hospital it is not true that "The man who found it thought it came from Governor Connally's stretcher" (page 129). He was quite specific in testifying that if he said that he'd not be able to sleep at night.

"The FBI representatives [at the autopsy were ~~not~~ there] to ensure the integrity of the examination" and they had no way of knowing whether it was a good or a bad one or a complete or an incomplete one. But they did have substantial questions as I report in the Afterword of NEVER AGAIN! that DeLoach does not mention (page 130). His references to having to shake things loose from the police and requiring help to be able to that are big lies.

He says the manufacturer of that rifle was Crescent Firearms, New York. It was made and says on it it was made in Italy. Crescent was the surplus importer and wholesaler.

It is another lie to say that Greer said that a bullet had fallen out of JFK at the Dallas hospital.

^{Chief} ~~Jose~~ Curry did not say on ~~it~~ that "the FBI had had Lee Harvey Oswald under surveillance" (page 132); Oswald had not "formed a chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans"; and Hosty did not the day of the assassination have the information that "Oswald had made a trip to Mexico only two months earlier." Hosty testified that the Oswald file had not been returned from New Orleans until the morning of that day and he'd not had time to look at it. Besides which was not then in it. (132)

On 133 he refers to the FBI withdrawing privileges and he does elsewhere without ever telling the full truth about it. It was ~~cutting~~ off all connections, including training. And it was over Curry's telling the embarrassing truth.

He says (134) that "the case against Oswald was firmly established" when outside of the official mythology there was no case at all and nothing was established except as propaganda. He says (135) that "what ultimately made the case of Oswald's guilt" was by the Firearms Identification Unit. That case was not made by it or by anyone, ever, in fact.

When he lists the Tippit evidence he is also factually incorrect. Like that a single bullet was recovered from ~~his~~ body. There were three recovered from it, one fell out. (page 139) And at that point, not only did the FBI not run "the already famous Zapruder film, run again and again" the night of the assassination, it did not even have it.

DeLoach says whatever seems to serve his purposes and has no concern for accuracy or truth, of which the foregoing is only part from this one chapter.

His Jack Ruby chapter follows. Most of it has nothing to do with Ruby. The high-lighting I did, little, should be enough for the record on him and his book on this.

On the FBI's effort to get King to kill himself, Sullivan blames that entirely on William C. Sullivan, the "liberal" head of Domestic Intelligence. I consider that unlikely, indeed, close to impossible, that Sullivan alone could do that, without Hoover's knowledge and approval. Or DeLoach's. (212) (also 291)

Although the long-time service to the FBI of the Childs brother, Morris and Jack, was fairly well known before this book, as for example, in Garrow's, DeLoach confirms it on page 213. They had long been in the Communist Party, had risen in it and had become virulently anti-Communist.

Of the many mistakes in his chapter, "The Hunt for James Earl Ray," I note one that may have some hidden significance. On page 237 he traces the rifle said to have been used in the crime (and never proven to have been in the official evidence and proven not to have been at the evidentiary hearing) he says that a Birmingham wholesaler sold it "to a Memphis gunshop on August 31, 1946." With this specificity it does seem that he has a record he uses.

But that rifle was bought by Ray from AeroMarine in Birmingham, not in Memphis, just a few days before the crime. What makes DeLoach's reference to a "Memphis gunshop" so provocative is several facts. One is that the rifle was not used in the crime and the FBI knew it. Another is that as I brought to light in Frame-Up, a similar rifle had been stolen the week before the assassination from a "Memphis gun shop." When to this is added the fact that after that theft Ray was told to trade the rifle he'd bought back in for a rifle that was identical with the one stolen from that "Memphis gun shop," the suspicion is obvious.

What makes this have added significance is that DeLoach was not only at the top in the FBI, he was in charge of its public relations. And that the rifle was sold by the Birmingham store, AeroMarine, is basic in the FBI's contrived conspiracy charge if filed not in Memphis but in Birmingham. The civil-rights act requiring a conspiracy for murder to be a federal crime under it, the FBI alleged the conspiracy by saying that Ray planned to go hunting with a brother in Wisconsin. Literally this is the fact. It, DeLoach included, knew that would not hold up but they were desperate for a legal basis and they used that, all they could claim. So, it seems to me to be unlikely that this was just a stupid mistake by DeLoach, and I do believe that he had a suppressed record he was citing—and that record related to the theft, not the purchase, of a rifle.

In referring to "our undercover agent at the Atlanta rooming house" what DeLoach does not say is that he did a black bag job there. He does go into some of what was stolen, the maps Ray had. He does not say that each of those maps was to a place that was strange to Ray and is a place to which Ray went.

While DeLoach does not report the fact that after he retired Lish "hitson is the man who took to Tampa had mailed the madeup tape and letter that were intended to

get King to kill himself, on page 275 he identifies Whitson as having been "head of the espionage section" of Sullivan's Domestic Intelligence Division.

DeLoach has referred often to COMINT/PRO, often with less than the full truth or accuracy. On 292 he says it "meant black bag work - surveilling coming and goings, bugging offices and residences, and tapping telephone lines." What he does not say is that they all involved criminal acts beginning with breaking and entering.

In preparing and publishing this bad book that he did not regard as bad, as he regarded all that he did that was bad in the FBI as not bad, DeLoach's motives were not dominated by money or major attention for his book. It seems that he merely wanted a record to exist and for it to reach those of the right in particular. His publisher is Regnery Publishing, Inc., then of Washington. By 1995 Regnery was a very minor publisher. Thirty years and more earlier it was based in Chicago and was more prominent among publishers before the empire-building became major in publishing. It was then the recognized publisher of the political right. Of Henry Regnery. When it moved to Washington and why I can only conjecture but it had been its own kind of success in Chicago.

The dishonesty of this book extends to its dust-jacket photograph of Hoover, not credited and thus I think taken by the FBI. It shows Hoover with his palms on a glistening desktop standing and looking ahead. But short as he ~~was~~ was, his hangup, Hoover was standing on some kind of platform to make him look taller than he was. His hips are higher than the top of the desk, as without something on which to stand they would not have been. To mask this fact the picture and the jacket itself are largely black. In the fourth of the center-of-book pictures Hoover is seen to be almost as tall as DeLoach, as tall almost as all the many in that picture, but in fact he got himself to where he was standing on the stairs that are visible to the left in the pictures but are not visible where Hoover is standing on them. And this gets to the guts of it all, dishonesty and deception- and Hoover's hangups.

Correction on jacket photo. It is credited to Culver Pictures on the back flap.