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OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

July 13, 1966

The attached newspaper was sent to the Director from "The New York Review, 250 West 57th Street, New York, N. Y.

Reference is made to the Director on page 16, and numerous references are made to the FBI throughout the article, "The Second Oswald: The Case for a Conspiracy Theory," which appears on pages 11 through 22.

[Handwritten initials]

MR. TOLSON _____
 MR. DELOACH _____
 MR. MOHR _____
 MR. CASPER _____
 MR. CALLAHAN _____
 MR. CONRAD _____
 MR. FELT _____
 MR. GALE _____
 MR. ROSEN _____
 MR. SULLIVAN _____
 MR. TAVEL _____
 MR. TROTTER _____
 MR. JONES _____
 TELE. ROOM _____
 MISS HOLMES _____
 MRS. METCALF _____
 MISS GANDY _____

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The New York Review of Books

250 West Fifty-Seventh Street
New York City, New York 10019
PLaza 7-8070

Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Wick _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JULY 18

Writing in the new issue of The New York Review of Books, Professor Richard H. Popkin presents the first systematic theory suggesting how Oswald may have conspired with others to assassinate the President.

Professor Popkin, Chairman of the Department of Philosophy at the University of California, San Diego, writes: "The evidence seems to me compelling that there was a second Oswald, that his presence was being forced on people's notice, and that he played a role on November 22, 1963."

Professor Popkin's article is based on evidence that appears in the 26 volumes of the Warren Commission Report, but was neglected by the Commission itself, as well as on new evidence that has appeared in recent weeks. He shows, for example, that on September 21, 1964, the Commission received a potentially significant report from the FBI concerning a man "similar in appearance to Lee Harvey Oswald," but that "in the mad rush to publish" nothing was done by the Commission to follow up this report.

"One would have expected," he writes, "that if the Commission had really been interested in clearing up all of the questions and rumors about the case it would have stopped everything, located this man..., found out if he had been masquerading as Oswald, and, if so, why... The public should demand that the Commission or FBI tell us whether this turned out to be significant..."

Professor Popkin also points out that the Commission's theory that the President and Governor Connally of Texas were wounded by a single bullet passing through the President's neck is contradicted by two FBI reports recently published for the first time in Edward Jay Epstein's Inquest (Viking Press). The FBI reports, he points out, indicate that Kennedy was shot in the back, not the neck. But the Commission never examined photographs of the body taken during the autopsy in order to ascertain the truth.

"If Kennedy was shot in the back," he writes, "...then it seems unlikely that anything can redeem a one-assassin theory...the Commission's Report made no attempt to resolve the contradiction between the FBI reports and the autopsy. The question whether the FBI reports were accurate can only be answered if the photographs of the autopsy and the X-rays are made available for examination by responsible and independent observers, if not by the public at large. Since the Commission's theory of a single assassin depends heavily on this point, the photos and X-rays should be made available immediately."

Mr. Wick

6-24-68

M. A. Jones

PAUL L. HOCH
2701 RIDGE ROAD
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD
KENNEDY

On June 21, 1968, captioned individual personally appeared at FBI Headquarters and spoke with SA [redacted] of the Crime Research Section. He advised that he is a student at the University of California and is doing a study and research on the assassination of President Kennedy. He indicated that he had spent considerable time at the National Archives and was desirous of posing several questions concerning the assassination to the FBI. Hoch was advised results of the FBI investigation into the assassination had been turned over to the President's Commission and that information which could be made public had been released to the National Archives. He stated he realized this and planned to do some more research and would recontact the FBI in a day or two to see if they could be of any assistance to him. Hoch again contacted SA [redacted] on June 23, 1968, and inquired as to whether the FBI could comment or confirm the following information. (b)(6)

(1) The FBI and Secret Service enjoyed good liaison throughout the investigation.

(2) Did the FBI obtain a copy of the Kennedy autopsy report shortly after the Secret Service?

(3) Was the information set forth in the FBI Summary Report of December 9, 1963, based on either written or oral results of the autopsy?

(4) Has all material in the FBI's possession pertaining to the assassination that can be made public been released to the National Archives?

(5) Was the statement which appeared in "The Washington Post" on May 29, 1968, which was attributed to an FBI spokesman which in effect said the Summary Report was based on the medical evidence available at the time, accurate?

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Wick - Enclosure

① Mr. Rosen - Enclosure

(104)

M. A. Jones to Wick Memo
RE: PAUL L. HOCH

Jim
Wick
revised
6-27-66

Mr. Hoch also advised that it appeared likely that reports by Agents Sibert and O'Neill, who reportedly attended the autopsy, were included in one of three Commission documents (Commission Documents 5, 7 and 49). He commented that the Archives had not yet removed portions of these documents which were withheld because they deal with Jack Ruby and inquired as to whether the Bureau could advise him as to what pages in these documents the reports of the autopsy appeared. He stated the documents are lengthy and are accessible only if he can specify which pages are of interest.

OBSERVATION:

It is apparent that Hoch has done considerable research into the assassination. He is a college student; not a professional writer and it is believed that in view of the recent publicity concerning the autopsy reports, we should not furnish him any information concerning the autopsy. It is believed that it would be permissible to advise him that the FBI did enjoy excellent liaison with the Secret Service throughout the investigation but that we not comment any further concerning his inquiry. Bufiles contain no information identifiable with Hoch.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter go forward to Mr. Hoch.

JUN 29 3 54 PM '66

LSI
BETH - NORTH

not sent

June 8, 1968

- 1-Mr. DeLoach
- 1-Mr. Rosen
- 1-Mr. Malley
- 1-Mr. Shriver
- 1-Mr. Casper
- 1-Mr. Wick

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
 United States Senate
 Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Senator:

Reference is made to three letters addressed to you bearing the signature and address "Frank Gedra, 4108 No Kenmore, Cago Ill, Apt 602," which were forwarded to this Bureau from the office of Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, United States Department of Justice.

Due to the fact Frank Gedra stated: "I know of a man who induced Oswald to murder your brother Pres Kennedy I have some information I will give you if you get in touch with me," our Chicago Office conducted an appropriate inquiry.

Special Agents of this Bureau interviewed Frank Gedra at his residence in Chicago. At that time, he stated his full name is Frank Gaidras and that he was born in Chicago, Illinois, on [redacted]. He changed his name from Gaidras to Gedra in order to "Americanize" the name, but he has never had his name changed legally. In addition, he has also utilized the name of Robert Staruss. (b)(7)(c)

Gedra was asked what information he possessed concerning Lee Harvey Oswald and about the man who induced Oswald to murder President Kennedy. Gedra stated he was certain that a man named "Knutson," whose first name he does not know, had induced Oswald to assassinate President Kennedy. Gedra was specifically asked the basis for his belief in this regard and he said that "Knutson" sends him mental messages and he can always tell what "Knutson" is doing because of these messages. He said he receives these messages from "Knutson" constantly and they sometimes cause him severe headaches.

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy

Gedra stated he has never heard "Kautson" actually mention Lee Harvey Oswald out loud, but he feels certain that a man like "Kautson" must have had something to do with Oswald. He also related that "Kautson" had worked with him in the past at Central Scientific Company in Chicago, and he believed "Kautson" was probably responsible for his losing his job there. Gedra related he had no other information concerning Lee Harvey Oswald or the assassination of President Kennedy other than that mentioned above.

The Special Agents of our Chicago Office conducted additional inquiries concerning Gedra at his former places of employment, and individuals contacted indicated in their opinion Gedra was "not quite right." His brother, [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c) advised that his mother and the mother of Frank Gedras, or Frank Gedra, is now in a mental institution at Elgin, Illinois. He advised that his brother had also been in a similar institution on about two occasions in the past, but he could not recall the details. He further advised that his brother on occasions is a heavy drinker, and that he was usually drunk several times a month.

The above is furnished for your information, and due to the indication of possible mental instability, additional inquiries will not be conducted. However, this information has been furnished to the United States Secret Service and to the office of Mr. Vison.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: The Department furnished three similar letters bearing the signature "Frank Gedra," which were addressed to Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Gedra claimed he knew of a man who induced Oswald to murder the former President. These letters were furnished to the Department by Senator Kennedy and since this was a referral, appropriate inquiries were made. Our Chicago Office conducted the investigation and submitted a letterhead memorandum, as requested by the Bureau. The information of pertinent value to Senator Kennedy is set forth in this letter, and the letterhead memorandum is being furnished to United States Secret Service and to the Department. Our Chicago Office furnished a copy of the letterhead memorandum to United States Secret Service in Chicago in view of the mental history and activities of the subject.

Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
 Service Unit - Room 6524
 Forward to File Review
 Attention _____
 Return to Rapauh 5716
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

Regular Request (Analytical Search)
 All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
 Subversive References Only
 Nonsubversive References Only
 Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

Restricted to Locality of _____
 Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
 Buildup Variations

Subject Frank Sedra
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address Cg, ell

Localities _____

Re _____ Date 5-23 Searched _____
 Initials _____

Prod. _____ FILE NUMBER SERIAL

NT [Redacted] 1942 Philadelphia
6/17/60
File called

