

# The Kennedy assassination files / An Examiner special report



This photo was taken by an 8mm movie camera at the instant President Kennedy was shot as he rode in a motorcade through D

## Oswald's account of shooting at C

WASHINGTON (UPI) — In an eerie prelude to the Kennedy assassination, Lee Harvey Oswald told his wife he escaped after shooting at Maj. Gen. Edwin Walker in April 1963 by running fast and hopping a public bus, FBI documents showed today.

It was the same escape plan he used after Kennedy was killed Nov. 22 that year.

The FBI records released today included a detailed account from Marina Oswald on how her "crazy" husband unsuccessfully tried to kill Walker because he was "leader of the fascists here and it was best to remove him."

The documents also showed the Oswalds sought permission several times in 1963 to move to the Soviet Union, the last request being

But the couple was still living in Dallas April 10, 1963, when the Walker assassination attempt occurred. Mrs. Oswald told FBI agents her husband described his plot to her in detail.

She said he first told her he was going to a night school typing class, but when he returned home about midnight he "immediately turned on the radio and lay on the bed in a very agitated condition."

In answer to her questions, Mrs. Oswald said, her husband announced that he had tried to kill Walker but did not know whether he had succeeded. Radio reports told him he had failed.

Mrs. Oswald quoted her husband saying he used a rifle in the shooting and later hid it in bushes. "She asked him how he had gotten

fast, and that he had come home on the bus," the FBI report said. Seven months later, police said, Oswald used his running abilities and the public bus again — to escape from the scene of the Kennedy assassination.

Throughout 1963, the documents showed, the Oswalds were in touch with the Soviet embassy. In February that year Marina asked permission to return to her native land alone. But when she renewed the request later, she said her husband would accompany her.

Oswald had lived in Russia during the 1950s and he tried to renounce his American citizenship in 1959. He didn't go through with this process, however, and after he met Marina, they moved to the United States in 1962.

killed, Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin, in Washington, State Department his embassy on the Oswald's requests.

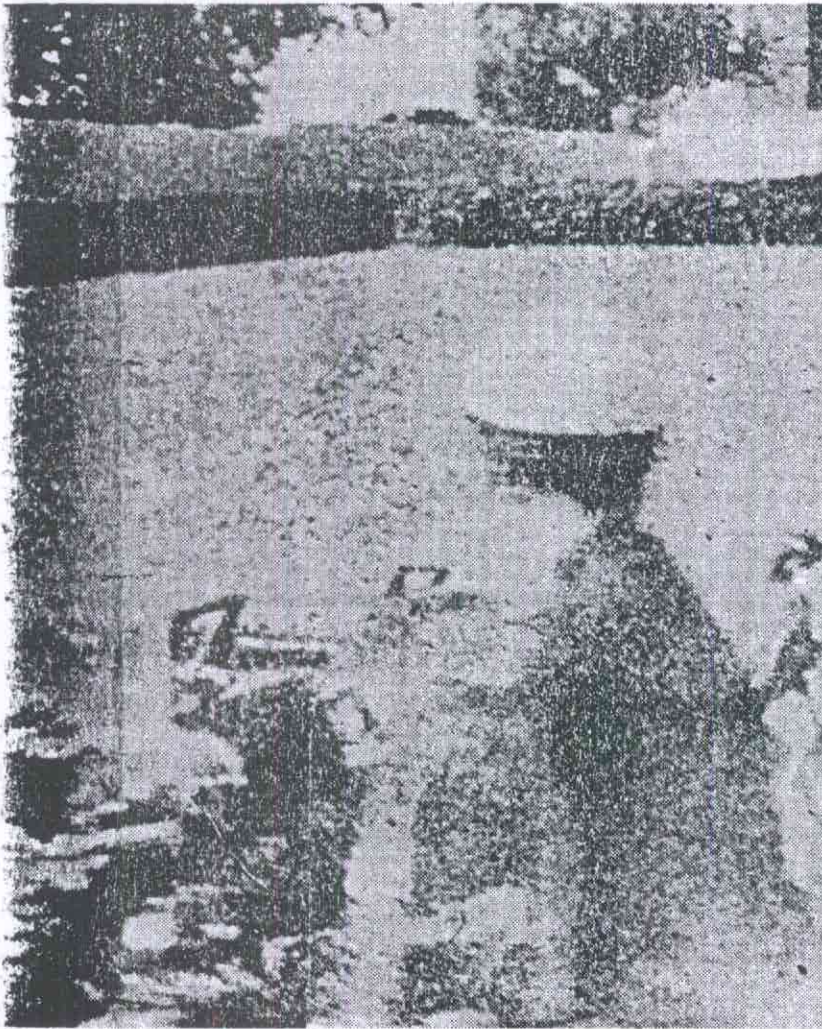
One of the documents that Oswald wrote the Nov. 9, 1963 — just 13 days after Kennedy was shot. He is that he was anxiously a permission for the trip.

Other papers in the FBI showed that Marina Oswald her husband was "the person who allowed his imagination to run riot." The FBI said:

### Leaks: The at first tied

...to For





... as he rode in a motorcade through Dallas

UPI Photo

# Why they found no bullet: It blew up

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Doctors performing the autopsy on the slain president were initially puzzled because they found no bullets in the body of John F. Kennedy, or evidence of an exit wound, according to the FBI papers released today.

But evidence found in Dallas, while the autopsy was under way at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland, solved the mystery, the report said.

The fact that the body did not produce a bullet that could be traced to Lee Harvey Oswald's rifle has given conspiracy advocates the basis for a theory there was a second gunman.

Kennedy's body was flown back from Dallas after the assassination and immediately taken to Bethesda for the autopsy. Two FBI agents accompanied the body from Andrews Air Force Base and stayed throughout the autopsy.

Their report, which had not been released before, said X-rays of Kennedy's head showed approximately 40 particles of disintegrated bullet, but no exit wound for the remainder of the disintegrated bullet. Then a search was made of the rest of the body for other wounds or a complete bullet.

"Inasmuch as no complete bullet of any size could be located in the brain area and likewise no bullet could be located in the back or any other area of the body and inspection revealed no point of exit, the individuals performing the autopsy were at a loss to explain why they could find no bullets," the report said.

But a Secret Service agent then delivered a bullet he said someone had given him in Dallas, saying it had been found on a stretcher in the emergency room at Parkland Hospital, where Kennedy died.

Informed of the bullet, doctors concluded it could have "worked its way back out" of Kennedy's body via the point of entry when cardiac massage was performed.

# Shooting at Gen. Walker

...ome home on ... t said. Seven ... aid, Oswald ... ties and the ... escape from ... dy assassina-

... the docu- ... walds were in ... embassy. In ... Marina asked ... her native ... she renewed ... he said her ... any her."

... d in Russia ... he tried to ... a citizenship ... through with ... and after he ... ved, to the

killed, Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, in Washington, gave the State Department his embassy's file on the Oswald's requests.

One of the documents showed that Oswald wrote the embassy Nov. 9, 1963 — just 13 days before Kennedy was shot. He indicated that he was anxiously awaiting permission for the trip.

Other papers in the FBI files showed that Marina Oswald said her husband was "the type of person who allowed his imagination to run riot." The FBI said she told

them Oswald "had an obsession to get his name in history and that everything he said was toward that end."

Oswald's address book contained a jumble of notes in English and Russian and addresses for the Soviet ambassador, several Cuban organizations and two American wire service reporters in Moscow, the documents said.

Oswald was loaned \$435.71 by the American government to move from Russia to America in 1962. He repaid the money in 1963.

# Leaks: They at first tied



... on to Ford



made Nov. 9, just two weeks before Kennedy was shot.

away from the Walker house, and he replied that he could run very

The FBI documents showed that eight days after Kennedy was

one to For

# The memo Hoover sent to FBI four hours after shooting

This is the text of a memo sent by J. Edgar Hoover to top FBI officials within four hours of the assassination of John Kennedy:

5:15 p.m.

Assistant Attorney General Norbert A. Schlei, Office of Legal Counsel, called. He stated he was drafting various forms of a proclamation for use by the new president and wondered if I could tell him whether I had any knowledge as to what kind of people murdered the President. He indicated the form of the proclamation might depend on whether these were madmen, disappointed office seekers, represented some political point of view, were segregationist madmen, or just who they were.

I told Mr. Schlei I thought very probably we had in custody the man who killed the President in Dallas but this had not definitely been established. I advised Mr. Schlei that Lee Harvey Oswald spent some years in Russia, although he was born in America; that he tried unsuccessfully to renounce his American citizenship; and then came back here. I stated our interest in Oswald came about from the fact that he had been associated with the Fair Play for Cuba Committee; that he was arrested in New Orleans some months ago for handing out leaflets in behalf of that committee. I told Mr. Schlei that Oswald was working in the building from which the shots were fired; that we have the rifle and three empty shells found in the building in which the man was employed. I said Oswald apparently left this building and a block or two away two police officers moved toward him, and for no good reason — he opened fire on them and killed one. I told Mr. Schlei that the police have Oswald in custody and we are interrogating him at the present time. I stated he would be in the category of a nut and the extremist pro-Castro crowd.

As to other Presidents assassinated, I indicated I had knowledge concerning only two of

them. I stated the attempted assassination of President Truman was by Puerto Ricans in the Nationalist Party, which was the same group who opened fire in the House of Representatives from the gallery.

Concerning the assassination of President McKinley, I advised Mr. Schlei, that Czolgosz, who killed President McKinley, was a student of Emma Goldman and that I later prosecuted her for deportation from the United States. I said we did not catch up with Emma Goldman until 1919, when we rounded up a group of anarchists and sent them back to Russia. I related that Czolgosz attended meetings at Goldman's home in Chicago, where she had a meeting place for people with anarchist views. I stated that Goldman was a well-educated woman — self-educated — coming from the sweatshops of the New York garment district; that she wrote on many subjects and wrote well.

I advised Mr. Schlei that almost all assassins had some imaginary grievance, usually of a political type — of either the anarchist viewpoint or the communist viewpoint. I stated the communists did not come into the picture until 1918.

I said Oswald, if he were the man, would be in the category of being an extreme radical of the left; that he was a member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee; that several of the leaders of this group have been indicted; but that this man never was a leader. I stated he was born an American but tried unsuccessfully to lose his American citizenship; came back to this country in 1962; made several trips to Cuba; upon his return each time we questioned him about what he went to Cuba for and he answered that it was none of our business.

I said his working in this particular building where he was employed would lend credence to the fact that he may very likely be the man.

I advised Mr. Schlei that we have been getting leads from all

over the country. I stated in California there is a story which has some substance which we are running down that a man made a statement to some woman at Long Beach that the President would be assassinated in Dallas today.

I also advised Mr. Schlei that Western Union has brought to our attention telegrams containing veiled threats to the President in the past several days.

I told him in criminal cases there are always four or five people who turn up who claim to be guilty. I stated I would think Oswald would be the one. I stated our agents view him as a nut as he freezes up and withdraws into himself when he is being questioned as he did this afternoon down in Dallas. I said that much depends upon the evidence to be obtained; that the rifle has been handled by dozens of people probably — the building was filled with people watching the parade; by the time they got to the fifth floor, the rifle had been dropped and thrown over into a corner; there was an indication he was eating fried chicken sandwiches this afternoon; we have to check this out and find where he obtained the chicken.

I stated Oswald is the principal suspect in the case; we are trying to persuade him to submit to a polygraph examination; and as soon as the body arrives in Washington, we will determine whether the bullets have been taken out because we will need that in the trial of the case to tie in with the empty shells found by the gun. I informed Mr. Schlei that at the hospital in Dallas they were not certain the bullets had been taken out; that the body is going to be removed to the Bethesda Naval Hospital and, if the bullets are still in the body, they will be removed.

Mr. Schlei stated I had been very helpful and he appreciated it very much. I told him, if we can be of any further help, to call on me.

Very truly yours,  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Investigators looking for a source of leaks from the Commission found chaotic keeping within the commission five possible sources of leaks. The sources included German according to FBI documents released today.

Subsequently, the cleared Ford and no source leak apparently was pinpointed.

Investigators said there "a complete lack of organization within the commission concerning the handling of records. They found to be no documentation whatever and no accounting documents, classified or not."

The commission asked Lee Harvey Oswald's diary Ruby's lie-detector test and interview with Chief Justice all were leaked to the press.

The report said the late Ruby Kilgallen, then a reporter for the old New York Journal-American, had been leaked a copy of Ruby's interview with Warren.

They said in one report talked to Kilgallen and for transcript she obtained stamped confidential.

"The five copies bearing confidential notation were used within the commission. Norman Redlich, legal counsel; Sen. Richard Russell, committee member; Burt Griffin, legal counsel; retained for use of the commission staff, and Congressman Ford, a commission member, FBI report said.

Kilgallen refused to testify.

## Next memo

WASHINGTON — The 40,000 pages of its Kennedy report will be released a month under the same Freedom of Information release: because of numerous requests for the federal Freedom of Information Act.

No files on the case will be deleted because the FOIA Act secret information would be sources or methods or to need FBI spent 18 months screening 40,000 pages comes in 15 copies each. Recipients are paying fees — \$4,000 total — but will be forgiven if the Justice Department material is of sufficient public interest.

The FBI has placed copies of the report one for reporters and one for other interested public, without charge.



Documents showed  
days after Kennedy was

# to FBI g

country. I stated in  
ere is a story which  
stance which we are  
n that a man made a  
o some woman at  
that the President  
assassinated in Dallas

vised Mr. Schlei that  
ion has brought to  
telegrams contain  
threats to the Presi-  
ust several days.

m in criminal cases  
ways four or five  
urn up who claim to  
ated I would think  
be the one. I stated  
ew him as a nut as  
and withdraws into  
he is being ques-  
did this afternoon  
s. I said that much  
the evidence to be  
the rifle has been  
dozens of people  
the building was  
people watching the  
e time they got to  
the rifle had been  
thrown over into a  
was an indication  
ing fried chicken  
his afternoon; we  
this out and find  
ined the chicken.

Oswald is the princ-  
the case; we are  
made him to submit  
examination; and  
e body arrives in  
ve will determine  
bullets have been  
ause we will need  
of the case to tie  
pty shells found by  
formed Mr. Schlei  
pital in Dallas they  
in the bullets had  
t; that the body is  
removed to the  
al Hospital and, if  
still in the body,  
moved.

stated I had been  
nd he appreciated  
told him, if we can  
her help, to call on

ery truly yours,  
ohn Edgar Hoover  
irector

## one to Ford

WASHINGTON (UPI) — FBI investigators looking into the source of leaks from the Warren Commission found chaotic record-keeping within the commission and five possible sources of one leak. The sources included Gerald Ford, according to FBI documents released today.

Subsequently, the agency cleared Ford and no source of the leak apparently was pinpointed.

Investigators said they found "a complete lack of organization within the commission concerning the handling of records. There was found to be no document control whatever and no accountability for documents, classified or not."

The commission asked for the Lee Harvey Oswald's diary, Jack Ruby's lie-detector test and Ruby's interview with Chief Justice Warren all were leaked to the press.

The report said the late Dorothy Kilgallen, then a reporter for the old New York Journal-American, had been leaked a copy of Ruby's interview with Warren.

They said in one report they talked to Kilgallen and found the transcript she obtained was stamped confidential.

"The five copies bearing the confidential notation were distributed within the commission to Norman Redlich, legal consultant; Sen. Richard Russell, commission member; Burt Griffin, legal consultant; retained for use of commission staff, and Congressman Gerald Ford, a commission member," the FBI report said.

Kilgallen refused to tell them



ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
Did he embarrass Hoover?

## Bobby got word first

WASHINGTON (AP) — On the day of John Kennedy's assassination, FBI director Hoover wrote his first memo for his files at 1:43 p.m. EST, only moments after the news of the shooting had been flashed around the world.

He said that he had broken the news to the president's brother, Attorney General Robert Kennedy, and that Robert "asked that we do whatever we could."

The president was pronounced dead at 2 p.m. EST, but Hoover failed to get the word immediately. The director must have suffered an embarrassing blow to his ego when he called Robert at 2:10 p.m. "to advise him that the president was in very, very critical condition. The attorney general then told me the president had died."

the source of her copy, agents said.

Another document reports that FBI investigators looked into another allegation that Ford was responsible for leaking Oswald's diary.

But the report states the FBI could not prove that Kennedy was ever on the stretcher on which the bullet was found.

Also during the autopsy a piece of Kennedy's skull was delivered by another agent who had found it on the floor of the presidential car in Dallas. This section contained metal fragments doctors said could be an indication of an exit point. Two bullet fragments also were found on the floor of the car.

Based on these "later developments" the doctors concluded: "One bullet had entered the president's back and had worked its way out of the body during external cardiac massage and that a second high velocity bullet had entered the rear of the skull and had fragmented prior to exit through the top of the skull."

□ WITHIN DAYS of the Kennedy assassination, the Secret Service made clear it understood that the FBI was in charge of the investigation.

FBI liaison O. H. Bartlett wrote headquarters that he had conferred with Secret Service chief James J. Rowley who "stated that there is no question but that the FBI is completely handling the Oswald investigation and his service is ready to assist in any way."

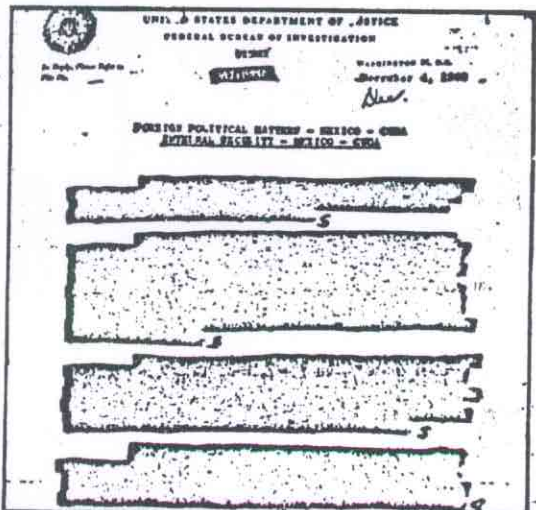
Rowley also was quoted as saying that "during the heat of battle" immediately after the Kennedy assassination "his service may have covered some leads which should have been given to the bureau" but "this was not done in any attempt to take away the bureau's jurisdiction."

# Next month, the second half

WASHINGTON — The FBI will release another 40,000 pages of its Kennedy assassination files next month under the same circumstances as today's release: because of numerous bona fide requests under the federal Freedom of Information Act.

No files on the case will be withheld, the agency says, but many words and paragraphs have been deleted because the FOI Act permits deletions when secret information would tend to reveal investigatory sources or methods or to needlessly violate privacy. The FBI spent 18 months screening the material. Each set of 40,000 pages comes in 15 cartons weighing 60 pounds each. Recipients are paying 10 cents a page for copying fees — \$4,000 total — but under law the payment may be forgiven if the Justice Department rules that the material is of sufficient public interest.

The FBI has placed copies of the files in two rooms, one for reporters and one for scholars, researchers and other interested public, which may be examined without charge.



These pages were heavily censored. AP Photo