

A267

R W

AM-JFK-CUBA 1-18

BY CLAY F. RICHARDS

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE WARREN COMMISSION ISSUED ITS FINAL REPORT, THE FBI TOLD THE PANEL IT HAD FOUND NO DIRECT LINK BETWEEN LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND CUBA, DOCUMENTS RELEASED WEDNESDAY SHOWED.

J. EDGAR HOOVER, IN A 1964 MEMO SUMARIZING THE FBI PROBE OF JOHN KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION, SAID OSWALD COULD NOT BE LINKED TO FIDEL CASTRO'S GOVERNMENT, TO GROUPS TRYING TO OVERTHROW CASTRO, OR TO ANY SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

IN A PRIVATE NOTE FOR FBI FILES ONLY THAT WAS ATTACHED TO THE LETTER, HOOVER SAID: "WE HAVE LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED IN THIS PARTICULAR PHASE OF OUR INVESTIGATION AND HAVE FURNISHED THE COMMISSION ALL OF OUR INVESTIGATION IN ORDER THAT IT CAN ARRIVE AT ITS CONCLUSIONS IN THIS MATTER."

THERE HAS BEEN SPECULATION THAT THE FBI WITHHELD EVIDENCE FROM THE WARREN COMMISSION ON OSWALD'S CUBAN ACTIVITIES.

BUT HOOVER TOLD WARREN COMMISSION CHIEF COUNSEL J. LEE RANKIN THE BUREAU'S INVESTIGATION, PLUS A COMPLETE SEARCH OF FBI FILES ON OSWALD'S ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO THE ASSASSINATION, FOUND:

--HE WAS NEVER A MEMBER OF OR ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY, THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY "OR ANY OTHER EXTREME LEFTIST ORGANIZATION."

--HE HAS NEVER ASSOCIATED WITH ANY "REPRESENTATIVE OR SYMPATHIZER" OF THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT.

--HE NEVER HAD ANY CONTACTS WITH PERSONS OR ORGANIZATIONS "ACTIVE IN UNDERGROUND ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST" THE CASTRO GOVERNMENT.

THE LETTER SAID ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO INVESTIGATIONS OF THESE LINKS HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THE COMMISSION.

DURING ITS INVESTIGATION OF A POSSIBLE OSWALD-CUBA CONNECTION, THE FBI SIFTED THROUGH A NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING SEVERAL LETTERS THAT THE BUREAU CONCLUDED WERE A HOAX.

ONE SUCH LETTER SENT TO THE VOICE OF AMERICA SHORTLY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION WAS SIGNED BY A MIGUEL GABAN LOPEZ WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS A CUBAN CITIZEN.

THE LETTER, POSTMARKED FROM HAVANA, SAID A MYSTERY WOMAN WHO DATED AN AGENT OF FIDEL CASTRO MIGHT BE ABLE TO DISCLOSE NEW INFORMATION ON THE KILLING AFTER SHE RECOVERED FROM A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN.

"AS SOON AS THIS LADY LEAVES THE COUNTRY -- IN FACT, SHE IS SUFFERING FROM A SERIOUS NERVOUS BREAKDOWN -- SHE WILL GO TO ONE OF THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA CLANDESTINELY IN ORDER TO AVOID BEING DETAINED BY THE CASTRO POLICE," LOPEZ SAID.

"LET US HOPE, THEN, THAT THE LADY IN QUESTION LEAVES CUBA IN ORDER TO LEARN FROM HER OWN VOICE EVERYTHING CONNECTED WITH THIS MONSTROUS EVENT IN WHICH PRESIDENT KENNEDY LOST HIS LIFE."

UPI 01-18 07:51 PES

A253

R W

AM-JFK-LBJ 1-18

BY DONALD LAMBERG

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE FBI INFORMED THE JOHNSON WHITE HOUSE, AND PRESUMABLY LYNDON B. JOHNSON HIMSELF, ABOUT A CIA-MAFIA PLOT TO ASSASSINATE FIDEL CASTRO YEARS BEFORE THAT PLOT WAS DISCLOSED BY SENATE INVESTIGATORS, AN FBI MEMO REVEALED WEDNESDAY.

THE FBI MEMO ALSO SAID JOHNSON BELIEVED THE CIA "HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH" JOHN F. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION IN 1963.

INITIAL READINGS OF THE THE VOLUMINOUS KENNEDY ASSASSINATION DOCUMENTS RELEASED WEDNESDAY DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER THE BUREAU EVER PASSED ITS CASTRO MURDER PLOT INFORMATION ALONG TO THE WARREN COMMISSION.

IT HAS BEEN WIDELY SUPPOSED THE COMMISSION KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE DEATH PLOTS AND THEREFOR NOTHING ABOUT THE REVENGE MOTIVE THEY MIGHT HAVE GIVEN CASTRO, THE CUBAN LEADER, TO KILL KENNEDY.

INCLUDED IN THE NEWLY RELEASED FILES WAS AN APRIL 4, 1967, FBI MEMO ON THE PLOTS TO KILL CASTRO.

IT SAID J. EDGAR HOOVER "HAD SENT OVER TO THE WHITE HOUSE SOME WEEKS BACK ALL THE INFORMATION IN OUR POSSESSION IN CONNECTION WITH THE CIA'S ATTEMPTS TO USE FORMER AGENT ROBERT MAHEU AND HIS PRIVATE DETECTIVE OUTFIT IN CONTACTS WITH SAM GIANCANA AND OTHER HOODLUMS, RELATIVE TO FOSTERING A PLOT TO ASSASSINATE CASTRO."

THE LATE GIANCANA WAS REPUTED TO BE THE HEAD OF A MAFIA FAMILY IN CHICAGO. THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE REPORTED IN 1976 THAT THE CIA SOUGHT THE HELP OF GIANCANA AND OTHER MAFIA FIGURES IN A PLAN TO KILL CASTRO IN THE EARLY 1960S, WHEN KENNEDY WAS STILL PRESIDENT.

THE FBI MEMO RELEASED WEDNESDAY WAS WRITTEN BY HOOVER AIDE CARTHA DELOACH TO CLYDE TOLSON, THE LATE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU.

DELOACH SAID LBJ'S TOP ASSISTANT, MARVIN WATSON, "CALLED ME LATE LAST NIGHT AND STATED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD TOLD HIM, IN AN OFF MOMENT, THAT HE WAS NOW CONVINCED THAT THERE WAS A PLOT IN CONNECTION WITH THE (KENNEDY) ASSASSINATION.

"WATSON STATED THE PRESIDENT FELT THAT THE CIA HAD HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS PLOT."

WHEN WATSON ASKED FOR MORE INFORMATION "IN THIS CONNECTION," DELOACH SAID HE HAD ALREADY SENT THE WHITE HOUSE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CASTRO ASSASSINATION PLOT.

"WATSON ... REMEMBERED OUR MEMORANDUM IN THIS REGARD," DELOACH SAID.

HE QUOTED WATSON AS SAYING, "IF WE HAD ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD BY ALL MEANS FORWARD IT TO THE WHITE HOUSE."

SWORN SENATE TESTIMONY LAST YEAR ALLEGED THAT MAHEU, A FORMER AIDE TO THE LATE HOWARD HUGHES, HELPED LINE UP MOBSTERS GIANCANA AND JOHN ROSSELLI IN A CIA-LED PLOT TO "ELIMINATE" CASTRO.

BOTH GIANCANA AND ROSSELLI WERE LATER MURDERED IN GANGLAND-STYLE SLAYINGS.

UPI 01-18 06:22 PES



A236

R W

AM-JFK-VIOLENT 1-18

BY ED ROGERS

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE WARREN COMMISSION ASKED THE FBI IN 1964 WHY IT FAILED TO TELL THE SECRET SERVICE ABOUT LEE HARVEY OSWALD BEFORE JOHN KENNEDY'S FATAL TRIP TO DALLAS, RECORDS SHOWED WEDNESDAY.

THE BUREAU REPLIED THAT IT HAD NOT CONSIDERED OSWALD A THREAT.

IN A LETTER DATED APRIL 6, 1964, THE FBI SAID AVAILABLE INFORMATION "DID NOT INDICATE IN ANY WAY THAT HE WOULD BE A THREAT TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY...."

"WERE THEY (THE FACTS) SUCH AS TO SUGGEST THAT THE FBI SHOULD INFORM THE SECRET SERVICE OF HIS PRESENCE IN DALLAS OR HIS EMPLOYMENT AT THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY."

FBI RECORDS SHOW THE QUESTION WAS ONE OF 30 THE WARREN COMMISSION POSED TO THE BUREAU IN MARCH 1964 IN WHAT ONE TOP FBI AGENT DESCRIBED AS A "CROSS EXAMINATION."

IN ITS REPLIES, THE FBI SAID IT FIRST BECAME INTERESTED IN OSWALD IN 1959 WHEN IT READ A UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL STORY OUT OF MOSCOW QUOTING OSWALD SAYING HE WANTED TO RENOUNCE HIS AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP FOR POLITICAL REASONS AND DID NOT PLAN A RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES.

AT THE TIME, THE FBI SAID, IT HAD OSWALD'S MARINE CORPS ENLISTMENT FINGERPRINT CARD ON FILE AND NOTHING ELSE, BUT IT KEPT TABS ON HIM THROUGH AMERICAN EMBASSIES AND KNEW WHEN HE RETURNED TO AMERICA.

THE BUREAU ALSO AID IT QUESTIONED OSWALD'S WIFE AND HIS BROTHER ROBERT IN 1960 TO DETERMINE IF OSWALD HAD BECOME A SOVIET AGENT.

THE WARREN COMMISSION ASKED WHY THE FBI DID NOT CONDUCT AN INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION OF OSWALD PRIOR TO 1962, WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES, AND THE FBI RESPONDED THAT IT PREFERRED TO TALK TO HIM AFTER HE ESTABLISHED RESIDENCE.

THE RECORDS SHOW FBI OFFICIALS CONFERRED ON HOW TO ANSWER THE WARREN COMMISSION'S QUERIES.

"THE COMMISSION'S QUESTIONS PROBE WHETHER THERE WAS EVIDENCE IN OUR INVESTIGATION OF OSWALD, PRIOR TO THE ASSASSINATION, OF A TENDENCY FOR VIOLENCE AND HENCE THE FBI SHOULD HAVE ALERTED SECRET SERVICE," FBI AGENT W.A. BRANIGAN WROTE TO AGENT W.C. SULLIVAN.

"OUR INVESTIGATION DID NOT DISCLOSE THAT OSWALD HAD A TENDENCY TO VIOLENCE," BRANIGAN SAID, AND "THIS IS CLEARLY SET FORTH IN OUR ANSWERS TO THE COMMISSION'S QUESTIONS."

LARGE SECTIONS OF THE MEMO WERE DELETED BY FBI CENSORS, ALONG WITH SOME ANSWERS TO COMMISSION QUESTIONS.

UPI 01-18 09:59 PES

A287

D W

AM-JFK-SHELLS 1-18

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THERE WERE AT LEAST 1,336 SPENT RIFLE CARTRIDGE CASES SCATTERED AROUND DALLAS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY.

THEY WERE FOUND ON STREET CORNERS, RIFLE RANGES, IN PRIVATE HOMES AND AT GUN SHOPS. THE FBI ROUNDED THEM ALL UP, CARTED THEM TO WASHINGTON AND TESTED THEM ALL.

THEY CONCLUDED THAT ONLY THREE CAME FROM THE GUN THE WARREN COMMISSION CONCLUDED WAS USED TO KILL KENNEDY. THOSE THREE WERE FOUND NEAR THE GUN ON THE SIXTH FLOOR OF THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY.

UPI 01-18 10:03 PES

A245

R W

AM-JFK-HILITES 1-18

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FBI DOCUMENTS ON THE JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION RELEASED WEDNESDAY:

--RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FBI AND THE COMMISSION WERE SO POOR THAT THE FBI SPIED ON THE COMMISSION AND THE COMMISSION THOUGH THE FBI COVERED-UP ITS SUSPICION THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD WAS AN UNDERCOVER AGENT FOR THE BUREAU.

--CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN INITIALLY DECLINED TO HEAD A PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION INTO THE SLAYING, WITHOUT GIVING A REASON. BUT WARREN CHANGED HIS MIND ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, ACCEDING TO LYNDON JOHNSON'S REQUEST.

--THEN-REP. GERALD FORD, A MEMBER OF THE PANEL, COMPLAINED OF WARREN'S MANAGEMENT OF THE INVESTIGATION AND PROMISED TO KEEP THE FBI "THOROUGHLY ADVISED AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION ... ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS." FORD ALSO AT ONE TIME INTENDED TO WRITE A BOOK ABOUT OSWALD, BUT NEVER DID.

--OSWALD'S WIFE MARINA TOLD THE FBI SHE HAD TO LOCK HIM IN A BATHROOM IN APRIL 23, 1963 TO KEEP HIM FROM TRYING TO ASSASSINATE RICHARD NIXON. BUT HOOVER CONCLUDED THAT OSWALD OR HIS WIFE WAS CONFUSED, AND THAT THE APPARENT TARGET WAS VICE PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON, GIVING A SPEECH IN DALLAS THAT DAY.

--ON NOV. 18, 1964, AFTER A YEAR OF EXHAUSTIVE INVESTIGATION, HOOVER DECLARED THAT THE FBI HAD FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A CONSPIRACY. "WE HAVE NEVER DEVELOPED INFORMATION INDICATING ANYONE OTHER THAN OSWALD INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION," A MEMO SAID, ADDING "WE HAVE LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED."

--HOOVER HAD LITTLE PATIENCE WITH THOSE WHO ESPOUSED CONSPIRACY THEORIES, CALLING AUTHOR MARK LANE A "SEX PERVERT" WHOSE WORK WAS "TRASH," AND DICK GREGORY A "RABBLE-ROUSING NEGRO COMEDIAN" WHO IT CALLED "DEMENTED."

--CARL A. DELGACH, HOOVER'S RIGHT-HAND MAN, OFFERED FORD SPECIAL USE OF A LOCKED FBI SECURITY BRIEFCASE TO TAKE HOOVER'S REPORT ALONG TO STUDY ON A SKIING TRIP. "O.K," HOOVER NOTED IN THE MARGIN.

--KATZENBACH ADVISED THE WHITE HOUSE ONE DAY AFTER RUBY SHOT OSWALD THAT "THE PUBLIC MUST BE SATISFIED THAT OSWALD WAS THE ASSASSIN, THAT HE DID NOT HAVE CONFEDERATES WHO ARE STILL AT LARGE." PREVIOUS FILES SHOWED HOOVER PERSUADED PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON NOT TO MAKE SUCH A FLAT PUBLIC STATEMENT UNTIL HE HAD HAD TIME TO CHECK CONSPIRACY TIPS FURTHER.

--IN A CLASH WITH DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL NICHOLAS KATZENBACH, DELGACH IDENTIFIED HIM AS THE SOURCE OF ALLEGATIONS THE FBI HAD LEAKED CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATIVE MATERIAL. DELGACH SAID HE TOLD SEN. RICHARD RUSSELL, D-GA., A WARREN PANEL MEMBER, "KATZENBACH WAS OBVIOUSLY LYING." HOOVER NOTED IN THE MARGIN OF THAT MEMO: "THIS SHOWS KATZENBACH'S TRUE COLORS."

--HOOVER PUBLICALLY DISDAINED THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PROBE CONDUCTED IN 1967 BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON IN NEW ORLEANS AND REFUSED TO LET FBI MEN ASSIST IN IT. BUT PRIVATELY, THE FILES SHOW, HE KEPT CLOSE TRACK OF GARRISON'S PROGRESS AND HIS AGENTS TRACKED DOWN NEARLY ALL.

UPI 01-18 05:29 PES



R W

AM-GARRISON SKED 1-18

BY JOHN MILNE

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE FBI TRIED TO STAY CLEAR OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PROBE LAUNCHED BY CONSPIRACY-MINDED DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON, BUT IT KEPT TABS ON GARRISON'S INFORMANTS AND HIS PROBES OF HOMOSEXUALS, RECORDS SHOWED WEDNESDAY.

THE AGENCY'S FILES ALSO SHOW THAT ONE TOP FBI OFFICIAL CONCLUDED MANY OF GARRISON'S CONSPIRACY CONCEPTS WERE "MENTAL CASES, DOPE ADDICTS" AND CRIMINALS, AND THAT GARRISON HIMSELF MIGHT BE INSANE. BUT THE AGENCY WAS SO FEARFUL IT WOULD BE ACCUSED OF TRYING TO DISCREDIT THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY IT DECIDED NOT TO INVESTIGATE A REPORT THAT HE WAS SHAKING DOWN "HUNDREDS OF SEX DEVIATES" IN NEW ORLEANS'S FRENCH QUARTER.

AND HOOVER DECIDED NOT TO INTERVIEW FORMER FBI EMPLOYEES IN NEW ORLEANS ABOUT A PRE-ASSASSINATION WARNING THAT THE BUREAU THERE ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED BECAUSE WORD MIGHT LEAK BACK TO GARRISON.

GARRISON, CHIEF LOCAL PROSECUTOR IN NEW ORLEANS, BECAME A WELL KNOWN CONSPIRACY THEORIST AFTER ANNOUNCING IN FEBRUARY 1967 HE THOUGHT JOHN KENNEDY WAS KILLED BY A GROUP INCLUDING LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

THE CONCLUSION DID NOT SET WELL WITH FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, WHO TOLD HIS AGENTS IN A FEB. 24 MEMO THAT, "DUE TO GARRISON'S IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER, NO CONTACT IS BEING MADE WITH HIM OR ANY MEMBER OF HIS STAFF."

DESPITE HOOVER'S DESIRE TO KEEP OUT OF GARRISON'S PROBES, FBI RECORDS SHOW THE AGENCY BUILT FILES ON THE MEN GARRISON ACCUSED OF CONSPIRACY AND THAT IT RECEIVED "VOLUMINOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING SPECULATION AND RUMORS" ON THE ASSASSINATION AS A RESULT OF HIS ACTIVITIES.

THE AGENCY MEANTIME WAS PRIVATELY KEEPING TRACK OF GARRISON'S WORK, INCLUDING HIS SEARCH FOR INFORMATION AMONG NEW ORLEANS HOMOSEXUALS.

A MARCH 1967 MEMO QUOTED AN INFORMANT SAYING GARRISON TOLD ONE FRENCH QUARTER NIGHTCLUB OPERATOR HE COULD EXHIBIT FEMALE IMPERSONATORS IF HE PROVIDED INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC HOMOSEXUALS.

THE MEMO SAID THE DEAL FELL THROUGH BECAUSE THE BAR OWNER HAD NO INFORMATION GARRISON WANTED.

IN ANOTHER MEMO, JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL H.L. EDWARDS QUOTED A RELIABLE SOURCE SAYING THAT GARRISON WAS INVOLVED IN A RACKET "WHEREIN HE AND A COUPLE OF OTHERS ARE SHAKING DOWN HUNDREDS OF SEX DEVIATES IN THE NEW ORLEANS FRENCH QUARTER."

EDWARDS SAID HIS SOURCE REPORTED GARRISON DEMANDED MONEY AND PROMISED IN RETURN THAT VICE CHARGES WOULD BE REDUCED OR DROPPED.

THE FILES SHOW HOOVER DECIDED NOT TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER, AS IT MIGHT APPEAR THE FBI WAS TRYING TO DISCREDIT THE MAN WHO STIRRED UP SO MUCH CONTROVERSY.

IN ANOTHER INCIDENT, THE FILES SHOW HOOVER DECIDED IN THE LATE 1960S NOT TO QUESTION FORMER FBI EMPLOYEES IN NEW ORLEANS ABOUT A MEMO A CLERK THERE SAID HE GOT JUST PRIOR TO THE ASSASSINATION.

THE CLERK, WILLIAM S. WALTER, SAID A MEMO FROM FBI HEADQUARTERS HAD COME OVER THE INTER-BUREAU TELETYPE WARNING THAT AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT COULD TAKE PLACE IN DALLAS.

FBI HEADQUARTERS SAID NO SUCH MEMO EVER WAS SENT, AND HOOVER SAID LARGE-SCALE INTERVIEWS ON THE SUBJECT COULD LEAD GARRISON TO CHARGE THAT THE FBI WAS TRYING TO INTIMIDATE WALTERS.

BY 1963, THE FILES SHOW, W.A. BRANIGAN, A TOP HOOVER ASSISTANT, HAD CONCLUDED GARRISON'S CONSPIRACY THEORY WAS "ABSOLUTELY UNWORTHY OF BELIEF AND STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT GARRISON IS INSANE."

BRANIGAN, DISCUSSING GARRISON'S UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO PROVE IN COURT THAT NEW ORLEANS BUSINESSMAN CLAY SHAW CONSPIRED TO KILL KENNEDY, NOTED THAT ONE OF THE WITNESSES AGAINST SHAW HAD BEEN COMMITTED TO A MENTAL INSTITUTION.

"PRACTICALLY ALL OF GARRISON'S WITNESSES HAVE BEEN MENTAL CASES, DOPE ADDICTS, CRIMINALS WITH UNSAVORY BACKGROUNDS AND THE LIKE," BRANIGAN SAID.

UPI 01-18 06:41 PES



A256

R W

AM-JFK 1STLD-PICKUP 4TH GRAF A230 1-18

BY DAVID NAGY

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE FBI SPIED ON AND RESENTED THE WARREN COMMISSION'S KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WORK AND THE COMMISSION, IN TURN, SUSPECTED LEE HARVEY OSWALD HAD BEEN AN FBI AGENT, NEWLY RELEASED FILES DISCLOSED WEDNESDAY.

THE NEARLY 60,000 PAGES OF FBI ASSASSINATION FILES SHOW THE BUREAU CONSIDERED THEN-REP. GERALD FORD AS ITS INFORMANT INSIDE THE WARREN PANEL, AND THAT J. EDGAR HOOVER KEPT A BITTER FEUD GOING WITH CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN ON GROUNDS HIS COMMISSION LACKED CONFIDENCE IN THE FBI.

HOOVER WAS INSULTED AND INFURIATED BY AN EARLY WARREN COMMISSION BELIEF -- APPARENTLY CLEARED UP QUICKLY -- THAT THE FBI HAD SENT OSWALD TO RUSSIA AS AN AGENT IN 1959; BY ITS ACCUSATIONS THE BUREAU WAS LEAKING INFORMATION TO THE PRESS; AND BY ITS CONCLUSION THE FBI SHOULD HAVE TOLD THE SECRET SERVICE WHAT IT KNEW ABOUT OSWALD BEFORE JOHN F. KENNEDY WENT TO DALLAS.

CALLING THE FINAL WARREN REPORT "SERIOUSLY INACCURATE IN SO FAR AS ITS TREATMENT OF THE FBI IS CONCERNED," THE DIRECTOR LAMENTED IN ONE STAFF MEMO:

"THE BUREAU WILL NEVER LIVE THIS DOWN AND WILL (BE) VIEWED AS A SECOND RATE CUTFIT HENCEFORTH."

"WE COULD NOT ARREST EVERY CRACKPOT WITHOUT CREATING A POLICE STATE," HOOVER SAID IN ANOTHER DEFENSIVE REBUTTAL OF ALLEGATIONS HIS MEN WERE DERELICT IN NOT PROTECTING KENNEDY FROM OSWALD.

DESCRIBING HIMSELF AT "OUTRAGED" AT THE WARREN REPORT'S CRITICISMS ON THAT SCORE, HOOVER TOOK HIS GRIPE RIGHT TO PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON AND NOTED IN A FILE MEMO DATED OCT. 20, 1964:

"THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT HE WAS SYMPATHETIC WITH MY VIEWS AND THAT HE INTENDED AT AN EARLY DATE TO FIND THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICLY REAFFIRM HIS FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN THE FBI AND ITS DIRECTOR."

RAILING AT CRITICS THAT RANGED FROM WARREN TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND SUCH CONSPIRACY THEORISTS AS COMEDIAN DICK GREGORY, HOOVER MADE PLAIN HE TOOK GREAT PRIDE IN THE FBI'S KENNEDY PROBE AND ITS FAST CONCLUSION -- ONLY DAYS AFTER THE KILLING -- THAT OSWALD ACTED ALONE, WITHOUT CONSPIRATORS FROM CUBA OR ANYWHERE ELSE.

"WE HAVE LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED IN THIS PARTICULAR PHASE OF OUR INVESTIGATION," HE SAID, IN A FILE NOTE, CONCERNING THE BUREAU'S FINDINGS THAT OSWALD HAD NO CUBAN CONNECTION WHATSOEVER.

AT A POINT EARLY IN THE ASSASSINATION PROBE, WHEN THE NATION WAS ASSUMING THE FBI AND THE COMMISSION WERE WORKING HAND IN GLOVE, HOOVER REFUSED THE PANEL'S REQUEST THAT IT MAINTAIN THE COMMISSION'S EVIDENTIARY EXHIBITS.

"THE COMMISSION HAS NOT SHOWN ANY CONFIDENCE IN THE FBI," HOOVER FUMED IN A NOTE PENCILLED INTO THE MARGIN OF A MEMO. "THEY HAVE CALLED ON OTHER TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO RECHECK OUR WORK AND HAVE SENT SQUADS OF ATTORNEYS TO DALLAS AND NEW ORLEANS TO REINTERVIEW PERSONS ALREADY INTERVIEWED."

PICKUP 4TH GRAF: THE HOSTILITY

UPI 01-18 06:50 PES

A261

R W

AM-WARREN SKFD 1-12

BY DANIEL F. GILMORE

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN WAS RELUCTANT TO HEAD THE COMMISSION INVESTIGATING JOHN F. KENNEDY'S DEATH BUT SINCE HE DID, OPERATED UNDER A SHADOW OF SUSPICION BY FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, NEWLY RELEASED DOCUMENTS SHOWED WEDNESDAY.

HOOVER WAS ANGERED BY WARREN'S DESCRIPTION OF THE PRELIMINARY FBI REPORT ON THE SLAYING AS BEING "IN SKELETON FORM" AND SUSPECTED THE CHIEF JUSTICE WAS LEAKING ITS CONTENTS TO THE MEDIA.

THE DIRECTOR ALSO ARRANGED FOR HIS OWN LEAK ON COMMISSION ACTIVITIES THROUGH THEN-REP. GERALD FORD, ACCORDING TO THE RAW FBI FILES RELEASED WEDNESDAY UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

AN FBI MEMO, DATED NOV. 29, 1963, REPORTED ATTORNEY GENERAL NICHOLAS KATZENBACH HAD INFORMED THE FBI THAT "THE CHIEF JUSTICE HAS DECLINED THE COMMISSION."

BUT WARREN CHANGED HIS MIND ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, AND THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMMISSION OF SEVEN PUBLIC SERVANTS WAS ANNOUNCED ON NOV. 29, SIX DAYS AFTER KENNEDY WAS SLAIN IN DALLAS.

THE DOCUMENTS GAVE NO INDICATION WHY WARREN WAS RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT, BUT SUPREME COURT JUSTICES HISTORICALLY HAVE AVOIDED TAKING OTHER ASSIGNMENTS IN THE GOVERNMENT.

FROM THE BEGINNING, HOOVER SIGNALLED HIS ANTI-PATHY TO WARREN.

HE BLOCKED WARREN'S CHOICE OF WARREN CLINEY -- WHOM HOOVER DESCRIBED AS "HORRIBLE" -- AS CHIEF COUNSEL OF THE COMMISSION AND THE JOB WENT TO J. LEE RANKIN, THE FORMER SOLICITOR GENERAL.

WHEN THE AGENCY DELIVERED ITS FIRST REPORT TO THE COMMISSION ON THE KENNEDY MURDER, WARREN DESCRIBED THEM AS BEING IN "SKELETON FORM."

AN ANGRY HOOVER NOTED "CERTAINLY A STATEMENT NOT BEFITTING A CHIEF JUSTICE."

WHEN WARREN REPEATED THE DESCRIPTION ON JAN. 8, 1964, HOOVER NOTED ON A MEMO "CERTAINLY A NEEDLESSLY DIRTY DIG BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE."

HOOVER ALSO REFUSED WARREN'S INVITATION TO ATTEND THE FIRST COMMISSION MEETING DEC. 3 ABOUT THE FBI'S PRELIMINARY REPORT BECAUSE THE REPORT "SPOKE FOR ITSELF."

SHORTLY AFTER THE COMMISSION WENT TO WORK, FORD COMPLAINED CONFIDENTIALLY TO HOOVER AIDE CARL D. DELCACH OF THE WAY WARREN WAS TRYING TO RUN IT. DELCACH TOLD HOOVER THE CONGRESSMAN PROMISED TO "KEEP ME THOROUGHLY ADVISED AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION ... ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS."

HOOVER NOTED "WELL HANDLED".

HOWEVER HOOVER DID ALERT WASHINGTON FBI AGENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR ANY INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE THREATS TO WARREN'S SECURITY AFTER RANKIN SUGGESTED "THERE WERE PROBABLY AS MANY PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY THAT WOULD LIKE TO SEE PHYSICAL HARM COME TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE" AS TO THE PRESIDENT.

FORD REPORTED TO DELCACH ON DEC. 19, 1963, THE COMMISSION HAD DISCUSSED LEAKS OF THE FBI REPORT.

DELCACH SAID HE THEN MENTIONED TO FORD THAT WARREN "WAS QUITE CLOSE TO (COLUMNIST) DREW PEARSON AND OBVIOUSLY USED PEARSON FROM TIME TO TIME TO GET THOUGHTS ACROSS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC ..."

ON JAN. 8, 1964, HOOVER WAS SHOWN A WASHINGTON POST NEWS CLIPPING SAYING THE WARREN COMMISSION HAD RECEIVED "THOUSANDS" OF PAGES OF RAW DATA FROM THE FBI.

"LOOKS LIKE WARREN IS STILL 'LEAKING,'" HOOVER SCRIBBLED NEXT TO THE CLIP.

UPI 01-18 07:22 PES



AM-JFK-CONFESS 1-18

BY EDWARD K. DELONG

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- INTERROGATION OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD ENDED JUST 11 MINUTES BEFORE HE WAS SHOT TO DEATH, AND THE POSTAL INSPECTOR WHO CONDUCTED THE PROBE CONCLUDED OSWALD NEVER WOULD HAVE CONFESSED TO KILLING JOHN KENNEDY, RECORDS SHOWED WEDNESDAY.

"OSWALD AT NO TIME APPEARED CONFUSED OR IN DOUBT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT HE SHOULD ANSWER A QUESTION," POSTAL INSPECTOR H.D. HOLMES SAID IN A REPORT DATED DEC. 17, 1963.

"ON THE CONTRARY, HE WAS QUITE ALERT AND SHOWED NO HESITANCY IN ANSWERING THOSE QUESTIONS WHICH HE WANTED TO ANSWER, AND WAS QUITE SKILLFUL IN PARRYING THOSE QUESTIONS WHICH HE DID NOT WANT TO ANSWER.

"I GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT HE HAD DISCIPLINED HIS MIND AND REFLEXES TO A STATE WHERE I PERSONALLY DOUBTED THAT HE WOULD EVER HAVE CONFESSED."

HOLMES WAS ASSISTED IN THE INTERROGATION BY DALLAS POLICE CAPTAIN WILL FRITZ WITH FBI AND SECRET SERVICE AGENTS PRESENT.

QUESTIONING BEGAN ABOUT 9:25 A.M. SUNDAY, NOV. 24, 1963, AND ENDED AT 11:10 A.M., THE REPORT SAID. OSWALD WAS SHOT BY JACK RUBY AT 11:21 A.M. AS HE WAS BEING TRANSFERRED FROM FRITZ' OFFICE IN POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO THE COUNTY JAIL.

HOLMES, ONE OF MANY GOVERNMENT AGENTS BROUGHT IN TO HELP WITH THE MASSIVE INVESTIGATION, SAID OSWALD WAS OFFERED FRESH CLOTHING RIGHT BEFORE HE LEFT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, BUT REJECTED EVERYTHING EXCEPT A RAGGED BLACK SWEATER.

HE SAID OSWALD WAS OFFERED "TROUSERS, SHIRTS AND A COUPLE OF SWEATERS" ON CLOTHES HANGERS, BUT HE WANTED ONLY A SWEATER.

"HE DIDN'T LIKE THE ONE THEY HANDED HIM AND INSISTED ON PUTTING ON A BLACK SLIP-OVER SWEATER THAT HAD SOME JAGGED HOLES NEAR THE FRONT OF THE RIGHT SHOULDER," HOLMES SAID.

DURING THE QUESTIONING, HOLMES SAID, OSWALD EMPHATICALLY DENIED HAVING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE KENNEDY SHOOTING, AND SAID HE WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY JUST BECAUSE HE HAD "POPPED A POLICEMAN IN THE NOSE IN A THEATER ON JEFFERSON AVENUE" DURING HIS CAPTURE.

"HE DENIED THAT HE HAD EVER ORDERED ANY RIFLE BY MAIL ORDER OR BOUGHT ANY MONEY ORDER FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING FOR SUCH A RIFLE," HOLMES WROTE. "IN FACT, HE CLAIMED HE OWNED NO RIFLE AND HAD NOT PRACTICED OR SHOT A RIFLE OTHER THAN POSSIBLY A .22, SMALL BORE RIFLE SINCE HIS DAYS WITH THE MARINE CORPS.

"HE STATED THAT 'HOW COULD I AFFORD TO ORDER A RIFLE ON MY SALARY OF \$1.25 AN HOUR WHEN I CAN'T HARDLY FEED MYSELF ON WHAT I MADE.'"

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A248

R W

AM-JFK-FORD 1-18

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- CONGRESSMAN GERALD FORD VOLUNTARILY BECAME FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER'S INFORMATION PIPELINE INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WARREN COMMISSION, FBI DOCUMENTS DISCLOSED WEDNESDAY.

WHILE HOOVER, IN AGENCY MEMOS, DID NOT HIDE HIS SUSPICION CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN WAS LEAKING DETAILS OF FBI REPORTS TO THE MEDIA, THE DIRECTOR HIMSELF KEPT TABS ON WARREN'S PANEL THROUGH FORD.

FORD, WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS THE ONLY MINORITY MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION, WAS IN TOUCH WITH TOP HOOVER AIDE CARTHA D. DELGACH ONLY DAYS AFTER THE PANEL STARTED ITS INVESTIGATION OF JOHN KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION, ACCORDING TO RAW FBI FILES.

DELGACH REPORTED TO HOOVER ON DEC. 12, 1963 FORD HAD CONFIDED HIS MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE WAY WARREN WAS RUNNING THE COMMISSION.

FORD WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WARREN WAS "ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH A 'ONE MAN COMMISSION' BY APPOINTING A CHIEF COUNSEL, WARREN CUNEY, THAT WAS HIS OWN PROTEGE," DELGACH REPORTED.

HOOVER BLOCKED CUNEY'S APPOINTMENT AND FORMER SOLICITOR GENERAL J. LEE RANKIN WAS SELECTED AS CHIEF COUNSEL.

DELGACH SAID "FORD INDICATED HE WOULD KEEP ME THOROUGHLY ADVISED AS TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION ... ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS." -- HE ADDED "WE HAVE HAD EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH CONGRESSMAN FORD FOR MANY YEARS" AND NOTED "HE HAS BEEN GIVEN AN AUTOGRAPHED COPY OF THE DIRECTOR'S BOOK, 'A STUDY OF COMMUNISM,' AND HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH MY OFFICE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS IN THE PAST."

"CONTACT WILL BE MAINTAINED WITH CONGRESSMAN FORD," DELGACH SAID.

HOOVER NOTED ON THE MEMO "WELL HANDLED."

A FEW DAYS LATER, DELGACH MET AGAIN WITH FORD WHO TOLD HIM THE COMMISSION HAD DISCUSSED LEAKS OF THE PRELIMINARY FBI REPORT BUT, "THERE WERE NO ALLEGATIONS MADE BY ANY ONE, INCLUDING THE CHIEF JUSTICE, THAT THE FBI HAD LEAKED PORTIONS OF THIS REPORT."

DELGACH INDICATED TO FORD THE FBI LEADERSHIP SUSPECTED WARREN HIMSELF WAS THE LEAKER.

HOOVER APPROVED LENDING FORD ONE OF ITS AGENTS' BRIEFCASES WITH A LOCK SO THE THEN-CONGRESSMAN COULD TAKE THE CONFIDENTIAL FBI REPORT HOME TO MICHIGAN FOR CHRISTMAS.

FORD HIMSELF, RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS THAT HE HAD LEAKED INFORMATION FROM LEE HARVEY OSWALD'S DIARY TO A DALLAS NEWSPAPER, ASKED THE FBI TO INTERVIEW HIM SO HE COULD DENY THE ALLEGATIONS. HE WAS THE ONLY COMMISSION MEMBER INTERVIEWED IN AN EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH FOR THE SOURCE OF THE LEAK.

THE FBI CONCLUDED FORD HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE LEAK AND THAT ITS SOURCE WAS THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN DALLAS.

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A212

R W

BC-JFK-GREGORY 1-18  
WASHINGTON (UPI) -- AN FBI MEMORANDUM IN THE FILES ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION RELEASED WEDNESDAY CALLED DICK GREGORY A "RABBLE-ROUSING NEGRO COMEDIAN" BECAUSE OF "FANTASTIC ALLEGATIONS" ATTRIBUTED TO GREGORY THAT FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER HELPED MASTERMIND THE ASSASSINATION.

THE MEMO SAID, "ON 1-18-65, DICK GREGORY, THE RABBLE-ROUSING NEGRO COMEDIAN MADE SOME FANTASTIC ALLEGATIONS ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION TO AN EMPLOYEE OF THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE."

THE FBI SAID A MAN IT DID NOT IDENTIFY, TOLD THEM GREGORY "STATED THAT THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS MASTERMINDED BY J. EDGAR HOOVER AND (DALLAS MILLIONAIRE) H.L. HUNT."

THE FBI MEMO CONCLUDED, "WE HAVE LONG SUSPECTED THAT GREGORY IS DEMENTED. NEVERTHELESS, THE COMMENTS HE HAS MADE ARE UTTERLY RIDICULOUS AND WE SHOULD CONFRONT HIM AND TELL HIM IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS THAT HE BETTER STOP PUTTING OUT SUCH GUTTER TALK."

FILES INCLUDED WRITINGS OF GREGORY'S WIFE THAT THE FBI MEMO SAID "CONTAIN MONSTROUS FABRICATIONS EVEN MORE ABSURD THAN THE TRASH PUT OUT BY THE INFAMOUS MARK LANE, REPORTED COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZER, (CENSORED) AND FORMER NEW YORK ASSEMBLYMAN."

A LATER MEMO IDENTIFIED THE ADL SOURCE AS BARNEY GORENSTEIN. THIS MEMO SAID THE STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO GREGORY WERE "JUST ANOTHER INSTANCE OF DICK GREGORY'S UNFOUNDED VICIOUS ATTACKS CONCERNING THE FBI AND THE DIRECTOR," AND ADDED THAT A MEMBER OF THE NAACP HAD SAID "THAT IN THE NAACP GREGORY IS REGARDED AS A COMPLETE NUT AND THEY TRY NOT TO WORK WITH HIM."

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