

Comments on FBIHQ 62-109060 records mentioned in Paul Hoch's notes

Serial 859 is represented by a "Permanent Serial Charge Out" sheet of 11/30/63. The "Subject" is "June Mail," with only the identification of the assassination added. This is helpful in locating where these removed surveillance records are stored, "Has been removed and placed in the Special File Room of Records Branch."

There remains, of course, the question who's mail? (In Section 11)

Serial 1002, Section 13, is classic Hoover (in the note) and classic FBI in the leading to Les Whitten of the coming FBI conclusions in its CD1. Hoover wrote on the story "I assume none of this is coming from FBI." DeLoach was no less sanctimonious, telling Mohr "We have given Les Whitten no information ~~whatsoever~~ whatsoever." Technically it was true. It was not information. DeLoach gilded the lily by quoting Whitten as saying "he had 'good sources.'" (PH- Hoover was not worried. You should heed their cover-the-ass method!)

Serial 1042, Section 13 is the Los Angeles forwarding of the Watley report. PH says "Davis= informant?" The equals mark is correct. The ? can be removed. Hall and Hemming are hand noted for 105 files, "Internal Security-Nationalistic Tendencies." The file on Davis is 134-6356. 134 - "Security Informants."

Serial 1044, Section 14 represents the forwarding of the borrowed Secret Service copy of the Zapruder film with a request for two dubs to be returned with it. HQ sent only 1 dub, with caution for official use only. The Dallas language is Eastman Kodak "...developed original negative and three copies for ZAPRUDER." Well, this does represent their knowledge of film. It was a positive that was developed. However, of possible significance is the failure to state the total number of copies the Eastman lab made. This is limited to three copies for Z. Says nothing about pirated copies, no Dallas secret.

Serial 1115, Section 14. PH says it is a copy of the story provided to Jeremiah O'Leary by Lt. Donovan, which is accurate. The DeLoach to Mohr memo says O'Leary left a copy of his story and suggested that Donovan be interviewed. He had not been. He was the next day. The story O'Leary left was not the printed copy. It is a copy of the uncorrected typed draft. A little out of the ordinary for a normal reporter being helpful. Patriotic, perhaps?

Serial 1132, Section 14 has two parts. The first suggests that they learn from Zapruder the speed at which his camera was going. This might account for the Barrett report, which gives the wrong speed. The second discusses the Walker bullet without any mention of scientific testing. Conrad (lab) refers only to how mutilated it was. (Dallas PD had already determined it was 30-caliber and hence not from the so-called Oswald rifle.) Conrad ignores this and lets it be believed that because of the mutilation it cannot be ~~dxxx~~ "whether the Walker slug had been fired from the assassination rifle." Getting a 30 cal through a 6.5 mm barrel would make it a truly magic bullet. As Marina said, that is the FBI for you.

Serial 1167, Section 15 inadvertently discloses that a Chicago political informer who provided the info on John Rossen a liberal. He was source not of FBI but of Mayor Daly's "social events." This is of interest to me because similar material, in great detail, reached the Minutemen, from who I obtained it years ago. I suggest the co-operation was between the Mayor's people or police and the MM source.

Serial 1188, Section 15, includes the unwanted information that there was a second Oswald helper in the Trade Mart lit. dist. project and what I do not recall from Steele's testimony, that Oswald told him at the outset the project would last only 15-20 minutes. (This would seem to indicate that Oswald expected TV coverage and at a certain time.) This TF coincides with what Steele and Jesse Core both told me about the bird man. I am surprised, however, that it took a day for WWL to speak to the FBI and that the FBI appears not to have spoken to it after knowing from WDSU of the TV coverage. Core and Planer, News Director, WDSU TV, both told me that some footage had disappeared by the time the FBI returned the WDSU footage.

Serial 1245, Section 16 is a followup report on the Somerset - Milteer business I reported in Frame-Up, with Somerset's name withheld, in which FBIHQ disputes the dependability of what Somerset told Miami FO even though, as this does not reflect, it was tape recorded and the FBI had the tape. (Other FBI records reflect that Somerset was a numbered informant who had been found to be undependable and was cut off.) Markings indicate that the FBI originally planned to withhold Quitman, Ga. and the Constitutional American Parties under claim to exemption almost a decade after the FBI had made the information available at the Archives and I published it. (The Brown referred to, also initially marked with withholding along with Milteer, died before Frame-Up appeared. Milteer has been dead for several years now, I think.)

Serial 1246, Section 16, not included by PH, is of no consequence from the content of the two records on the Milteer fingerprints but is of interest in the reflection of the names the FBI intended to withhold and of the informing of a Mr. Frank Howard Trent, Room 2268 J.B. (Justice Building?) by a copy. Why would the FBI involve anyone outside the FBI in what FBIHQ regarded as undependable info.

(FBI withheld same info in King records and has not responded to appeal after more than a year and after being informed it is all in the public domain.)

HW 7/26/78