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: SAC, DALLAS (100-10461)

DATE: 9/17/64

OM : ASAC KYLE G. CLARK

BJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka

IS - R - CUBA

At 8:15 am. this date, Section Chief WILLIAM A. BRANIGAN telephonically made reference to SA GEMBERLING's report dated 9/9/64. Specific reference was made to pages 42 and 43 regarding the interview of WHATMAN and his wife EDNA, concerning a hole in the grass near the area of the assassination.

Mr. BRANIGAN stated that upon reading Assistant to the Director BELMONT raised the obvious question "Has Dallas made a check to determine if there is a bullet in the area and has it has been recovered? If this has not been done, why not?"

Mr. BRANIGAN suggested that if a check has not been made of the area that a mine detector be obtained to determine if there is any material in the area described. He further advised that if this check has been made and reported, he desired a return call as to the reference. If the check has not been made, they are holding the dissemination of referenced report for an insert to be designated as page 43-A indicating the results of the check.

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FILE_ (100-10461)

9/17/64

SAC SHANKLIN

JECT:

LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka

IS - R - CUBA

Reference is made to Mr. W. A. BRANKGAN's telephone call regarding the utilization of a mine detector.

Checks were made and it was determined that apparently there was no mine detector in the Dallas area from either the Army or the Air Force.

I called Mr. BRANIGAN back and pointed out to him that we had definitely described the scuff mark in such a manner that it would appear to me that it could not have been caused by a bullet, but that if the Bureau desired, we would certainly try to utilize a mine detector. It was pointed out to him that we did not have such here, and he suggested that the Laboratory be contacted.

I got in touch with RICHARD MILLEN of the Laboratory and he advised that after checking, the nearest mine detector furnished by the Bureau was either in Denver or Kansas City, and that they would call and have one immediately forwarded to this office. He stated that the sound man should be able to operate this mine detector and that the instructions as to how to do so were definitely spelled out in the handbook of technical equipment which has been furnished to each sound man.

I called Mr. BRANIGAN's office back and talked to Supervisor ROBERT E. LENIHAN and advised him of the above and the fact that upon receipt of the mine detector, we would make appropriate examination in the area where this scuff mark was supposed to have occurred.

(3 - Dallas JGS:mfr (3)

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