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DATE JUL 21 1982 BY SP2 [redacted]

March 6, 1964

MR. HOOVER:

RE: WHITE HOUSE LIAISON

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Evans _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

For the past two weeks [redacted] of the Department has attempted to arrange a luncheon date with me. This has not been possible due to American Legion conferences in Washington, the pressure of work, and just because of the fact that I don't particularly care to be with [redacted] for lunch. He was so insistent upon calling over on Thursday, 3/5/64, that I finally told him I would meet him at 1:15 p. m. today. (b)(7)(c)

Our conversation at lunch proceeded casually until [redacted] stated he had a serious question to ask. He prefaced his question by stating that this conversation, of course, was between the two of us. I made no agreement with him on this score. He then asked if I knew the answer to why the relationship between the Department of Justice and the FBI, specifically the Attorney General's office and your office, had "cooled" considerably since November, 1963, following the assassination. I told [redacted] that I had noted no difference, perhaps it was because the Attorney General had spent a great deal of time out of his office and therefore had not been in touch with us as much as usual. [redacted] stated he thought he knew the answer to this question but merely wanted to get my opinion on the matter. (b)(7)(c)

[redacted] told me that a number of individuals close to the Attorney General felt that the President's body had not even become cold before you started circumventing the Attorney General and dealing directly with the President. He stated that these individuals felt that this was wrong and hurt the relationship between the Attorney General and you. I told [redacted] that I had heard there was some "petty jealousy" on this subject; however, these individuals, whoever they may be, should realize the President for 19 years was an across-the-street neighbor of yours, had had you down to his ranch in Texas, and had been a close personal friend. (b)(7)(c)

[redacted] stated there was more to the basis for his question than merely friendship between you and the President. He advised that he and the Attorney General had received information indicating that you and I had furnished either files or memoranda of a derogatory nature concerning White House employees close to the Attorney General, to the President. [redacted] indicated that his information was that we had voluntarily done this in order to get the Attorney General's "friends" removed from office. He stated there was another matter that bothered him. He then advised that the [redacted] had been brought into (b)(7)(c)

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the Department for consultation and while at the swearing in ceremonies of Jack Reilly (former Coordinator of United States Attorneys and now a Commissioner of the Interstate Commerce Commission) [redacted] allegedly had overheard several of the Attorney General's closest aides conspiring to embarrass President Johnson by "blowing up" the Bobby Baker case. [redacted] continued that [redacted] also allegedly had overheard these same aides making derogatory remarks concerning you and the FBI. [redacted] added that when [redacted] returned to Minneapolis he told either our SAC or an Agent of the Minneapolis Office of these alleged remarks. [redacted] stated that you then prepared a letter to the President concerning this matter. [redacted] summed up his remarks by stating that the "close aides" to the Attorney General apparently felt that there was a campaign on in the FBI to embarrass the Attorney General by "carrying tales" to the President. Hoid

I asked [redacted] if he was through talking. He stated he was, that he only wanted to bring these matters to my attention and to ask me if there was any truth to the allegations. (b)(7)(c)

I told [redacted] that if we had any desire to issue a "campaign" against the Attorney General or him, we would come to them direct. I told him also that quite naturally the FBI has good liaison with the White House and that any time the President asked for information from FBI files it is our responsibility to furnish such information. I further told [redacted] that obviously petty jealousy and envy might rear its ugly head and bring on ill-advised gossip from small people; however, he should know that there was no "campaign" to destroy the Attorney General's image with the President. [redacted] remarked that this "image" in the President's mind was small enough as it is, that he hoped sincerely that the Attorney General could grow in stature in the President's mind. (b)(7)(c)

I told [redacted] I wanted him to know that to my knowledge you had never prepared a letter to the President concerning any incident involving the [redacted]. I asked [redacted] where he learned such gossip. He replied that apparently the Attorney General had gotten this information from a source either in the White House or somewhere else. I asked [redacted] if the President or one of his aides had personally brought this to the Department's attention. He replied that he didn't know this to be true but stated that the Attorney General had picked up this information from a rather substantial source. I asked [redacted] if he would be willing to produce this "substantial source" so that we could question him about this rumor as well as any other rumors. [redacted] stated he could not. I told him that he had mentioned these allegations, therefore, he should be willing to prove them by putting up or shutting up. At this point [redacted] asked (b)(7)(c)

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that I not get mad about the matter, that he merely wanted to discuss this in a gentlemanly manner to see if there was any truth to the allegations. He stated that he and the Attorney General would not be around much longer and that they both hoped to keep their relationship with the FBI as pleasant as ever.

I told [redacted] that his entire line of chatter represented to me a lot of petty jealousy and distorted gossip. He replied that as I well knew the Attorney General was very sensitive about his "friends" and wouldn't want them to be hurt in any manner. I told [redacted] that any information we had concerning the Attorney General's "friends" had long ago been forwarded to the Attorney General and that he must be well aware of the record. (b)(3)(c)

We had a brief walk back to the Department, at which time the conversation changed until we reached the door of my office. I asked [redacted] specifically at this time if he had been directed to have lunch with me in order to carry on a "fishing expedition." He replied in the negative. He stated that he was merely anxious to retain my friendship. He added that the Attorney General had been very loyal to you and had defended you on numerous occasions, often taking the "heat" when he very well could have put it on the FBI. I made no comment to this obvious lie. I asked [redacted] also at this point if he had insisted on a luncheon date in order to later go on the record that he had brought the above-mentioned allegations to my attention. He again replied in the negative. He stated he just wanted to see what our answers would be. He then held out his hand, and we shook hands, whereupon he left for his office. (b)(3)(c)

Obviously there has been a bad leak either in the White House or at FBI Headquarters. With your permission, I showed Jenkins, and he showed the President, the letter from the SAC in Minneapolis, quoting [redacted] concerning the statements he had obviously heard while at the Department of Justice derogatory to President Johnson and you. Jenkins told me that the President was shocked over this matter. The second allegation specifically concerns the two memoranda we furnished the President regarding [redacted] after which both men were fired. These memoranda were specifically furnished at the direction of the President. Jenkins told me later on in confidence, as I reported to you in blind memoranda, that the Attorney General was extremely shaken by the dismissals of [redacted]. He obviously expected to use these men in the campaign for the Vice Presidency. He became so mad with the President that he walked out of the President's office. He also told [redacted] who sided with the President, that he would never speak to him again. (b)(3)(c)

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I recommend that I inform Jenkins in strict confidence that these matters have been brought to our attention and that obviously there is a "leak" somewhere. You may also desire to mention this to the President on Monday at the time of your luncheon with him.

Respectfully,



C. D. DeLoach