

Irving, Texas
July 22, 1975

I, JOE A. PEARCE, being duly sworn, hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to Assistant Director HAROLD N. BASSETT and Inspector J. ALLISON CONLEY.

I have been advised by MR. BASSETT that there has been an allegation that LEE HARVEY OSWALD had visited the Dallas Office approximately seven to ten days prior to November 22, 1963, inquiring for SA JAMES HOSTY and when he was not available, left a note with MRS. NAN FENNER, who was the receptionist in the Dallas Office at that time. MR. BASSETT has also advised me of an allegation by MRS. FENNER that she had shown me this note some time shortly thereafter. MR. BASSETT also advised me that MRS. FENNER had further advised an unnamed female was standing at her desk as I walked by accompanied by another employee and on this occasion, this unidentified female stated to MRS. FENNER, show them the letter. This, according to MRS. FENNER, is when I allegedly read this note.

In November, 1963, I was employed as a Complaint Clerk in the Dallas Office at which time the office was located on the 12th floor of 1114 Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas.

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Concerning the above allegations, I can definitely say that I never saw a note, letter, message, or communication as alleged by MRS. FENNER. I do recall that possibly it was several weeks or months after the assassination that MRS. FENNER mentioned to me that OSWALD had been in the office prior to the assassination and had delivered a note for SA HOSTY. I did not think anything of it since I had heard that OSWALD was an informant or source of HOSTY and it was not uncommon for sources to occasionally come to the office for the purpose of delivering some note to the contacting Agent.

I cannot recall hearing this subject concerning OSWALD delivering a note being discussed from the previous time until some time subsequent to May, 1974, when I returned to Dallas as a Special Agent, having left Dallas as a clerical employee in 1970.

While I cannot recall the specific time or date, sometime subsequent to May, 1974, while in a group with several other Bureau employees and in the Dallas Office, MRS. FENNER made a comment something to the effect that the note OSWALD had delivered to HOSTY contained something about a bomb. I felt that this statement was nothing more than an exaggeration

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on the part of MRS. FENNER. I tended to disregard this statement inasmuch as MRS. FENNER has a tendency to exaggerate, in my opinion. I believe the other employees in the group also had the same reaction as I had. The only other employee whom I recall may possibly have been a part of this group, was SA DRAIN.

I have not heard this subject discussed since the above mentioned incident.

I was also asked by MR. BASSETT whether MRS. FENNER had ever mentioned to me that she had been told by someone to forget the fact that OSWALD had visited the Dallas Office and left a note. In response to the above question, I can only state that I never heard anyone mention being asked to forget or not mention the receipt of a note or a visit by OSWALD.

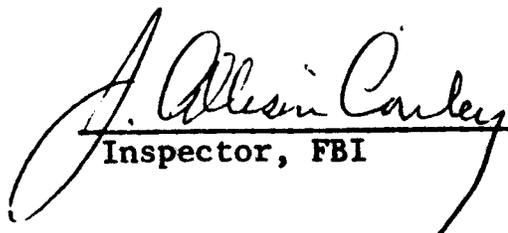


JOE A. PEARCE

Sworn to and subscribed before me on July 22, 1975, at
Irving, Texas.



Assistant Director, FBI



Inspector, FBI