

Shute

Dear Jim, re selection of copies from the Hoover O & C
file in today's mail

4/19/84

While Lil is making copies of a few personal comment and subject filing a few observations about records I'm not copying.

The reflection of Hoover's interest in collecting anything at all, even the incredible, like the nonsense about the alleged JFK marriage to Durie Malcom (Blaufeldt well-known fabrication), that could be interpreted as critical of JFK or Bobby, is interesting, especially because of the number of such incredible records he kept in his office. Ditto for the report that Arthur Krock ghosted JFK's Profiles in Courage. Again, how, when and with what help he did that book is well and publicly known, so as of the time Hoover got that crap it was known to be crap. (These also indicate what others in the FBI fed to Hoover.)

Capriciousness in withholding as well as improper and unnecessary withholding is illustrated by a record that has neither an O & C identification number or a record-copy number, the 3/6/64 DeLoach to Hoover "RE: WHITE HOUSE LIAISON." The b7C claim is made to withhold what cannot properly be withheld, the name of the Minneapolis SAC, Held. Moreover, that name is disclosed in each of the other relevant records in this series.

Similarly, Document 2 is the charge-out form covering RFK's approval of the King wiretap, 100-~~XXXX~~ 16670-254. As of 12/13/73 it may have been transferred and withheld but it was disclosed earlier and I have it somewhere. (I'd be surprised if a copy is not also in the OPR records disclosed to you.)

Document 1, 62-17799-424 (a file in which there are other records relating to FBI conferences on this matter with the Secret Service) improper withholdings include the ~~name~~ name of Clint Hill, Jackie's security guy. He testified to this, published, it was in the papers and all over radio and TV, yet it is withheld (p.3) as b7C.

It is amusing that the FBI comments that Rufus Youngblood offered his life to save JFK as illustrative of Secret Service bravery, although it was not until long after that car left the crime scene that Youngblood covered Johnson, yet makes no mention of the fact that Clint Hill, who reacted very rapidly, almost did get killed by the front bumper of the car he'd jumped off of to rush to Jackie's aid. Resumed 5/8- The Zapruder film shows clearly, especially in the stills, that the bumper of the followup car from which Hill leaped and ran to Jackie's side just did touch his pants leg. It was that close. (Page 3 of 62-27799-424.)

There is no number on the Hoover memo of 11/29/63 to his top brass, reporting on his phone call from LBJ. This is quite interesting for a number of reasons. One is that LBJ was apparently feeling Hoover out on those he was considering for his Commission. Five of those he mentioned to Hoover were on the Commission. It is significant that LBJ made no mention of Warren Only. Not five-six. Dulles mentioned first and earlier.

Great interest in what is new, last sentence second graf on 2, relating to the rearrest of Silvia Duran by the Mexican police, they "will confront her with the original informant." We have never heard of any informant involved in that matter. In the context of what we know it seems that the informant must be on her, unless that crazy woman novelist had surfaced by then. If this is a possibility, perhaps Ruby is interested in this formulation.

In the first graf on 3 Hoover, correctly, states that the pictures do not show any police recognition of Ruby when he was about to shoot Oswald or when he did. I do not recall any FBI record analysing those pix in any disclosed record or any of the Commission's. I do not recall that the FBI by then had and forwarded those pix, either. It thus appears that there is a file of info that has not been disclosed.

The next graf is explicit in stating that the FBI decided that the first and

third shots hit JFK and the second hit Connally. The rest of this graf is not correct and does not come from any disclosed record. The last graf reinforces this explanation of the shots. Also graf 5 on page 4.

Document 436, DeLoach to Mohr, 4/24/64, page 2 graf 1: DeLoach protests unnamed "Department official," who is Katzenbach, then acting AG, who told the Commission "that the FBI was 'leaking' information. I told Manchester that this allegation had of course been false." actually, it was under DeLoach himself that the info was leaked, including to a reporter friend of mine. These contents of the FBI report, CD 1, that it wanted out, started being leaked for appearance on 12/2/63, with the major stories 12/5/63. As Katzenbach told the Commission in executive session 12/5, nobody but the FBI could have done the leaking. (Ford was DeLoach's informant on the Commission.) At least some of this particular leaking was by Tom Bishop, who was directly under DeLoach.

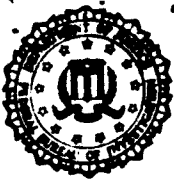
"Oswald was a non-violent type of person," page 2, graf 3. How much more non-violent can one be when one hand-delivers to the FBI a letter threatening to blow its Dallas office up, which FBIHQ did know, according to the Inspector General's investigation of it after this was leaked in Dallas in 1975.

Although ^{Hoover} added three notes stating he would not see Manchester, he did and he blabbed a bit, boasted a bit, it was disclosed, and I have a copy in the Manchester subject file.

The record filing of this copy was eliminated in xeroxing to eliminate the right margin, where that is always noted. This copy is from 94-37374, which appears to be on Manchester, the book or both.

Document 453 does not have the main record copy file eliminated in xeroxing. This copy also is from the 94-37374 file. The original is in 62-111371 as Serial 10. I have a note on that file indicating that it includes 62-109060-3417 as a NR copy, of a memo on Manchester's meeting with Hoover, re this book. A copy was designated for a different 94 file, Xed out. Hoover's response, Document 454, also NR in 94-37374, apparently is # 8 in 62-111371. In the course of checking my incomplete file of FBI file numbers to see if I have a record of 94-45162, which the Xed out number may be, I learned that I do not but that there is still another 94 file that holds records relating to this matter, 94-48768, which is a recorded copy of a memo that is Not Recorded in the main assassination file, 62-109060, after Serial 3325. All these files for one author, one book, one meeting with JEH? Document 455, original # 7 in 62-111371, had a copy designated for another file, number illegible. In this one ^{A Jones} another of DeLoach's leakers, stated (in graf 3) that rather than leaking "we have remained meticulously silent." This memo summarizes their contacts with Manchester and concludes with its "cordial" nature since he wrote what the FBI liked in 1955. Hoover then noted, "I will see him" and states the time. Document 456 is #6 in the 62-111371 file and also originally was designated for the file the number of which is illegible. Although Lesar did not provide a copy of the DeLoach memo reporting what was said at the meeting with Manchester, I assume a copy of it also is in the O & C file. My subject-file copy is from a main assassination file, I think 62-109060.

I think it is a fair inference that although previously strong in his refusal to see Manchester, Hoover changed his mind on learning that in 1955 Manchester gave wide distribution to a Hoover article.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

1:39 p. m.

November 29, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON ✓
MR. BELMONT ✓
~~MR. MOHR~~
~~MR. CONRAD~~
MR. DE LOACH ✓
~~MR. EVANS~~
~~MR. ROSEN~~
~~MR. SULLIVAN~~

The President called and asked if I am familiar with the proposed group they are trying to get to study my report - two from the House, two from the Senate, two from the courts, and a couple of outsiders. I replied that I had not heard of that but had seen reports from the Senate Investigating Committee.

The President stated he wanted to get by just with my file and my report. I told him I thought it would be very bad to have a rash of investigations. He then indicated the only way to stop it is to appoint a high-level committee to evaluate my report and tell the House and Senate not to go ahead with the investigation. I stated that would be a three-ring circus.

The President then asked what I think about Allan Dulles^x, and I replied that he is a good man. He then asked about John McCloy, and I stated I am not as enthusiastic about McCloy, that he is a good man but I am not so certain as to the matter of publicity he might want. The President then mentioned General (Lauris) Norstad, and I said he is a good man. He said in the House he thought he might try (Hale) Boggs and (Gerald R.) Ford and in the Senate (Richard B.) Russell and (John Sherman) Cooper. I asked him about Cooper and he indicated Cooper of Kentucky whom he described as a judicial man, stating he would not want (Jacob K.) Javits. I agreed on this point. He then reiterated Ford of Michigan, and I indicated I know of him but do not know him and had never seen him except on television the other day and that he handled himself well on television. I indicated that I do know Boggs.

- O Johnson, President Lyndon B.
- x Assassination of President John F. Kennedy
- x Presidential Commission on Assassination
of President John F. Kennedy
- x Security - Presidential
- x Presidential Conferences
- x Presidential Travel Security

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Conrad, DeLoach, Evans, Rosen, Sullivan

The President then mentioned that (Walter) Jenkins had told him that I have designated Mr. DeLoach to work with them as he had on the Hill. He indicated they appreciated that and just wanted to tell me they consider Mr. DeLoach as high class as I do, and that they salute me for knowing how to pick good men.

I advised the President that we hope to have the investigation wrapped up today but probably won't have it before the first of the week as an angle in Mexico is giving trouble - the matter of Oswald's getting \$6500 from the Cuban Embassy and coming back to this country with it; that we are not able to prove that fact; that we have information he was there on September 18 and we are able to prove he was in New Orleans on that date; that a story came in changing the date to September 28 and he was in Mexico on the 28th. I related that the police have again arrested Duran, a member of the Cuban Embassy; that they will hold her two or three days; will confront her with the original informant; and will also try a lie detector test on her.

The President then inquired if I pay any attention to the lie detector test. I answered that I would not pay 100% attention to them; that it was only a psychological asset in investigation; that I would not want to be a part of sending a man to the chair on a lie detector test. I explained that we have used them in bank investigations and a person will confess before the lie detector test is finished, more or less fearful it will show him guilty. I said the lie detector has this psychological advantage. I further stated that it is a misnomer to call it a lie detector since the evaluation of the chart made by the machine is made by a human being and any human being is apt to make the wrong interpretation.

I stated, if Oswald had lived and had taken a lie detector test, this with the evidence we have would have added that much strength to the case; that there is no question he is the man.

I also told him that ^{Jack Ruby} Rubenstein down there has offered to take a lie detector test but his lawyer must be consulted first; that I doubt the lawyer will allow him to do so; that he has a West Coast lawyer somewhat like the Edward Bennett Williams type and almost as much of a shyster.

The President asked if we have any relationship between the two (Oswald and Rubenstein) as yet. I replied that at the present time we have

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not; that there was a story that the fellow had been in Rubenstein's nightclub but it has not been confirmed. I told the President that Rubenstein is a very seedy character, had a bad record - street brawls, fights, etc.; that in Dallas, if a fellow came into his nightclub and could not pay his bill completely, Rubenstein would beat him up and throw him out; that he did not drink or smoke; that he was an egomaniac; that he likes to be in the limelight; knew all of the police officers in the white light district; let them come in and get food and liquor, etc.; and that is how I think he got into police headquarters. I said if they ever made any move, the pictures did not show it even when they saw him approach and he got right up to Oswald and pressed the pistol against Oswald's stomach; that neither officer on either side made any effort to grab Rubenstein - not until after the pistol was fired. I said, secondly, the chief of police admits he moved Oswald in the morning as a convenience and at the request of motion picture people who wanted daylight. I said insofar as tying Rubenstein and Oswald together, we have not yet done so; that there are a number of stories which tied Oswald to the Civil Liberties Union in New York in which he applied for membership and to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee which is pro-Castro, directed by communists, and financed to some extent by the Castro Government.

The President asked how many shots were fired, and I told him three. He then asked if any were fired at him. I said no, that three shots were fired at the President and we have them. I stated that our ballistic experts were able to prove the shots were fired by this gun; that the President was hit by the first and third bullets and the second hit the Governor; that there were three shots; that one complete bullet rolled out of the President's head; that it tore a large part of the President's head off; that in trying to massage his heart on the way into the hospital they loosened the bullet which fell on the stretcher and we have that.

He then asked were they aimed at the President. I replied they were aimed at the President, no question about that.

I further advised him that we have also tested the fact you could fire those three shots in three seconds. I explained that there is a story out that there must have been more than one man to fire several shots but we have proven it could be done by one man.

The President then asked how it happened that ^{Gov. John} Connally was hit. I explained that Connally turned to the President when the first shot was fired and in that turning he got hit. The President then asked, if Connally had not been in his seat, would the President have been hit by the second shot. I said yes.

I related that on the fifth floor of the building where we found the gun and the wrapping paper we found three empty shells that had been fired and one that had not been fired; that he had four but didn't fire the fourth; then threw the gun aside; went down the steps; was seen by a police officer; the manager told the officer that Oswald was all right, worked there; they let him go; he got on a bus; went to his home and got a jacket; then came back downtown, walking; the police officer who was killed stopped him, not knowing who he was; and he fired and killed the police officer.

The President asked if we can prove that and I answered yes.

I further related that Oswald then walked another two blocks; went to the theater; the woman selling tickets was so suspicious - said he was carrying a gun when he went into the theater - that she notified the police; the police and our man went in and located Oswald. I told him they had quite a struggle with Oswald but that he was subdued and shown out and taken to police headquarters.

I advised the President that apparently Oswald had come down the steps from the fifth floor; that apparently the elevator was not used.

The President then indicated our conclusions are: (1) he is the one who did it; (2) after the President was hit, Governor Connally was hit; (3) the President would have been hit three times except for the fact that Governor Connally turned after the first shot and was hit by the second; (4) whether he was connected with the Cuban operation with money we are trying to nail down. I told him that is what we are trying to nail down; that we have copies of the correspondence; that none of the letters dealt with any indication of violence or assassination; that they were dealing with a visa to go back to Russia.

Mrs. Marina Oswald

I advised the President that his wife had been very hostile, would not cooperate and speaks only Russian; that yesterday she said, if we could give assurance she would be allowed to remain in the country, she would cooperate; and that I told our agents to give that assurance and sent a Russian-speaking agent to Dallas last night to interview her. I said I do not know whether or not she has any information but we would learn what we could.

The President asked how Oswald had access to the fifth floor of the building. I replied that he had access to all floors. The President asked where was his office and I stated he did not have any particular place; that he

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was not situated in any particular place; that he was just a general packer of requisitions that came in for books from Dallas schools; that he would have had proper access to the fifth and sixth floors whereas usually the employees were down on lower floors. The President then inquired if anybody saw him on the fifth floor, and I stated he was seen by one of the workmen before the assassination.

The President then asked if we got a picture taken of him shooting the gun and I said no. He asked what was the picture sold for \$25,000, and I advised him this was a picture of the parade showing Mrs. Kennedy crawling out of the back seat; that there was no Secret Service Agent on the back of the car; that in the past they have added steps on the back of the car and usually had an agent on either side standing on the bumper; that I did not know why this was not done - that the President may have requested it; that the bubble top was not up but I understand the bubble top was not worth anything because it was made entirely of plastic; that I had learned much to my surprise that the Secret Service does not have any armored cars.

The President asked if I have a ^xbulletproof car and I told him I most certainly have. I told him we use it here for my own use and, whenever we have any raids, we make use of the bulletproof car on them. I explained that it is a limousine which has been armorplated and that it looks exactly like any other car. I stated I think the President ought to have a bulletproof car; that from all I understand the Secret Service has had two cars with metal plates underneath the car to take care of hand grenades or bombs thrown out on the street. I said this is European; that there have been several such attempts on DeGaulle's life; but they do not do that in this country; that all assassinations have been with guns; and for that reason I think very definitely the President ought to always ride in a bulletproof car; that it certainly would prevent anything like this ever happening again; but that I do not mean a sniper could not snipe him from a window if he were exposed.

The President asked if I meant on his ranch he should be in a bulletproof car. I said I would think so; that the little car we rode around in when I was at the ranch should be bulletproofed; that it ought to be done very quietly. I told him we have four bulletproof cars in the Bureau: one on the West Coast, one in New York and two here. I said this could be done quietly without publicity and without pictures taken of it if handled properly and I think he should have one on his ranch.

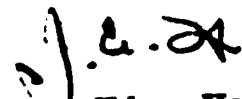
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The President then asked if I think all the entrances should be guarded. I replied by all means, that he had almost to be in the capacity of a so-called prisoner because without that security anything could be done. I told him lots of phone calls had been received over the last four or five days about threats to his life; that I talked to the Attorney General about the funeral procession from the White House to the Cathedral; that I was opposed to it. The President remarked that the Secret Service told them not to but the family wanted to do it. I stated that was what the Attorney General told me but I was very much opposed to it. I further related that I saw the procession from the Capitol to the White House on Pennsylvania and, while they had police standing on the curbs, when the parade came, the police turned around and looked at the parade.

The President then stated he is going to take every precaution he can; that he wants to talk to me; and asked if I would put down my thoughts. He stated I was more than head of the FBI - I was his brother and personal friend; that he knew I did not want anything to happen to his family; that he has more confidence in me than anybody in town; that he would not embroil me in a jurisdictional dispute; but that he did want to have my thoughts on the matter to advocate as his own opinion.

I stated I would be glad to do this for him and that I would do anything I can. The President expressed his appreciation.

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director