

Classic Lane, the improviser for the headline of the moment, is preserved in FBI Headquarters files. The FBI operates the world's largest vacuum cleaner. It gets everything, keeping out of Headquarters files and in the field offices what it does not want to find in Headquarters but preserving for ready access what the political operators of the Bureau, those who plant stories in the papers, may find use for.

The FBI likes his September 12, 1969 interview with Muhammed Speaks so much ~~they~~ ~~stored~~ ~~copies~~ it was not content to keep a clipping in its Lane file alone. It made 62-109060. duplicates for one of its files on the assassination of President Kennedy, ~~and still~~ ~~another~~ ~~file~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~Administrative~~ ~~file~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~62~~ ~~series~~ ~~107060~~ ~~xxx~~

I can hardly fault the FBI for this. The item is precious.

It typifies the irresponsible - the utterly unreasonable if not irrational - vaporizing of the self-promoting. It is the kind of file the FBI can retrieve for the public ridicule of all those who criticize it, not just those who do these weird things. It also represent the kind of record the FBI's legislative people can flash with the Congress to persuade members that those who criticize the FBI ~~are~~ ~~not~~ ~~knowing~~ do not know what they are talking about.

Speaking of Charles Stephens Lane, always with the personal pronoun, always if subtly presenting himself as reincarnated Sherlock Holmes, declared Stephens was "the most astute of all the witnesses I found."

This is the same ~~witness~~ Stephens who was witness to nothing, who was so drunk the cabbie who customarily hauled him to liquor stores when he was drunk would not take him that day, the very same Stephens about whom Lane was to boast in 1976 that his then common-law wife had told Lane in what he represented as an exclusive, tape-recorded interview that Stephens was not even home when Dr. King was killed.

Oswald as Marxist, Files Show

Dallas District Attorney Jim Garrison
Tom Hoover characterized as an
omaniac" and a "shyster" and Dick
egory as a "rabble-rousing Negro
nedian."

As for wild leads that the bureau
lively tracked down, witness a note
reportedly signed by one "Sandra
by," which an unidentified source
covered in 1972 when it fell out
a roll of fabric at a Fort Worth,
fabric company.

Would the one who fines this note
use get a holt of the fbi as I am
held in white slavery by a band
Gypsies," the note said. "They are
ain to kill the Presedant as thet
also comunists. My unkle is one of
m."

The note was ostensibly date Nov. 1,
1963, three weeks before the assassi-
on. The man who found it, whose
name was deleted from FBI docu-
ments, turned it over in May, 1976, be-
cause of recent publicity about the
medny killing. A memo from the
Dallas field office to the director re-
quested the bureau to "examine the
alleged note in an effort to deter-
mine if the paper can be determined

to have been of more recent manufac-
ture than November, 1963, and for any
other information that would discredit
the authenticity of this note."

After investigating the paper, the
fingerprints on the note and the type-
writer, the FBI concluded that "no in-
vestigation concerning this letter is
deemed advisable."

Another 1976 tip that seemed more
serious apparently got short shrift. It
came from James E. Beard of Apache
Junction, Ariz., who told an FBI agent
in a June 7, 1976, interview that he
knew Jack Ruby was running guns to
Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

The only response in the files re-
viewed yesterday, however, was to
note that, according to Dallas FBI
files, Ruby had made only one trip to
Cuba, in August, 1959, at the invita-
tion of L.C. McWillie, a gambler and
friend.

One of the unexplained mysteries,
insofar as the FBI files go, is a report
of a message signed "L. H. Oswald"
dated Sept. 20, 1963. The message,
typed on Western Union forms used
by the public to compose telegrams
before they are sent, was said to have

been found while a 14-volume set of
medical books was being unloaded in
Tulsa, Okla., in 1973.

The message, addressed to Jack
Nellville in Tulsa, says:

"Meet me at Sheraton (sic) Hotel in
Dallas at 4:00 p.m. on Sept. 21, room
567. Expecting something big. Be on
time. L. H. Oswald."

The FBI said Oswald could have
been in Dallas on the day in question,
and Western Union officials said the
telegram form was in use in 1963 and
discontinued in early 1964.

However, the FBI could not find a
Jack Nellville in the Tulsa area, and
the bureau dropped its investigation
of the matter.

There was no indication that the bu-
reau bothered to check with the hotel.
Its chief telephone operator told The
Washington Post yesterday that it has
no Room 567. The highest-numbered
room on the fifth floor of the Sherat-
on-Dallas then and now, she said, is
Room 523.

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