

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *W*

DATE: April 29, 1964

FROM : A. Rosen *Rosen*

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA - CUBA

Tolson	
Belmont	
Mohr	
DeLoach	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

*Y/T*

*101-13*  
*1046*

With reference to the three Agents who will appear before the President's Commission to give testimony relative to the captioned case, Mr. Howard Willens called Malley and advised that he would like to have a rather detailed discussion relative to the testimony to be obtained from the three Agents on May 4 + 5, 1964.

When questioned as to the nature of the conference that was desired, Willens stated that he and Samuel Alan Stern would probably be handling the questioning and that he realized there were some areas which could possibly be "a little ticklish" where the Bureau is concerned. When asked to explain this, he said he was referring to over-all Bureau policies where he did not feel that the Agents that were being called in for testimony would be in a position to answer and, for this reason, he desired a conference to explore these matters so that the Agents would not be placed in a position of being asked questions they were not able to answer. He further stated that he desired to discuss this matter so that if it were necessary to have some representative of the Bureau to officially answer such questions consideration could be given as to the proper person from the Bureau to testify before the Commission.

Inasmuch as it is believed the line of questioning will deal with policies of the Domestic Intelligence Division, it appears desirable that a representative from the Domestic Intelligence Division accompany Malley to the conference to be held sometime during the day of April 30, 1964.

RECOMMENDATION:

MAY 1 1964

That Assistant Director Sullivan accompany Malley on the above-mentioned conference, the time of which will be decided in the early a.m. of April 30, 1964.

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Branigan

JRM:ige  
(7)

*Belmont to Tolson*  
*4/30/64*  
*ANB:gen*

*Yes* →

62-109090 -  
NOT RECORDED  
199 MAR 31 1964

*I think Belmont should handle this.*

SOVIET SECTION

PERS. REC. UNIT

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-1046

Memorandum

Mr. Mohr

DATE: April 24, 1964

C. D. DeLoach

ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

SAC Shanklin of the Dallas Office called me at approximately 3:00 a.m. today relative to an article that was scheduled to come out in the "Dallas Morning News" this morning by Hugh Hynesworth. The article quoted Special Agent Kesty of the Dallas Office as stating to a Dallas police officer in discussion regarding Lee Harvey Oswald. "We know he was capable of assassinating the President but we didn't dream he'd do it." The story is attributed to a source close to the Warren Commission. It mentions a memorandum given the Commission by Dallas Police Officer Jesse Curry which contains the alleged remarks by Agent Kesty. I told Shanklin to get in touch with Editor Krueger of the "Dallas Morning News" and remind him that Shanklin had seen the story two weeks ago and had put the lie to the same story. I further told Shanklin not to comment about the story if it was printed but to let us know at FBI Headquarters of the results of his contact.

SAC Shanklin advised me telephonically at approximately 11:00 a.m. today that he had contacted Krueger after a number of attempts and that Krueger had claimed that the story had already been printed prior to his having a chance to knock it out. He apologized to Shanklin for not stopping the story, particularly since Shanklin had advised him two weeks ago that the story was false.

Shanklin told me that Felix McKnight, head of McKnight Newspapers, had called and was irritated over the fact that the "Dallas Morning News" had engaged in irresponsible journalism. McKnight stated he would like to put the lie to this story. Shanklin referred him to FBI Headquarters.

I discussed this matter with Messrs. Belmont, Tolson and the Director. After receiving the Director's approval, and in talking with McKnight who called FBI Headquarters, I told McKnight that the above-mentioned statement which had been attributed to SA Kesty was absolutely false and had no basis in fact whatsoever. McKnight stated he certainly appreciated the opportunity to set the record straight and he would see to it that an article was prepared immediately for the afternoon edition of his newspaper. He wanted to know if he could quote the Director as making this statement. I told him the Director was the spokesman for the FBI at all times.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Tolson
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Jones
- 1 - Mr. Morrell

MAY 4 1964

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199 MAY 4 1964

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RECORDS. REC. UNIT

600:sa  
(e) MAY 7 1964

4-24-64  
Re: Assassination of the President

In talking with SAC Shanklin I asked him specifically if Agent Hosty had been quoted correctly by the United Press International (UPI). (The UPI ticker of 10:53 a. m. today quotes SA Hosty as stating, "I said nothing like that. I completely deny it.") SAC Shanklin stated he had questioned Hosty and that Hosty had denied making this statement to UPI. Hosty admits that a UPI reporter called him at home last evening but that he had referred the reporter to SAC Shanklin rather than making any comment himself. I told SAC Shanklin to make certain that Hosty made no statement whatsoever.

ACTION:

For record purposes.

*Handwritten notes:*  
5.11.  
✓  
[Faint, illegible handwritten signatures and scribbles]

Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

(OSWALD)  
 DALLAS--A DALLAS FBI AGENT TODAY FLATLY DENIED HE EVER SAID THE PRESIDENT  
 BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY THAT LEE HARVEY  
 WAS CAPABLE OF KILLING THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.  
 SAID NOTHING LIKE THAT," SAID AGENT JAMES HOSTY. "I COMPLETELY  
 DENY IT."  
 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS IN A COPYRIGHT STORY BY HUGH WINTERBOTHAM,  
 SAID TODAY A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE WARREN COMMISSION TOLD OF A MEMO  
 THE COMMISSION BY DALLAS POLICE CHIEF JESSE CURRY CONTAINING  
 ALLEGED REMARK BY HOSTY.  
 ACCORDING TO THIS MEMO, THE NEWS SAID, HOSTY, ONLY MOMENTS AFTER  
 OSWALD WAS ARRESTED, SAID:  
 "I KNEW HE WAS CAPABLE OF ASSASSINATING THE PRESIDENT BUT WE  
 DREAM WE'D DO IT."  
 HOSTY SAID HE COULD ONLY DENY THAT HE EVER MADE SUCH A STATEMENT,  
 HE WOULD NOT COMMENT FURTHER. THE HEAD OF THE DALLAS FBI OFFICE,  
 GEORGE SHANKLIN, SAID ANY OFFICIAL COMMENT WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM  
 WASHINGTON. THE FBI IN WASHINGTON SAID IT HAD NO COMMENT. 62-109090-1  
 4/24--GE1028

*Handwritten notes:*  
 if made in  
 attempt  
 with 800-...  
 [Signature]

*Handwritten notes:*  
 [Signature]  
 [Signature]  
 ENCLOSURE  
 MAY 4 1964  
 WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE  
 CRIME REPORTS

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : MR. ROSEN

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD  
IS - R - Cuba

DATE: 4/24/64

cc Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan  \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SAC Shanklin called at 10 a.m. from Dallas, with reference to the teletype sent in by Dallas this morning showing that allegedly the Dallas police testified before the Warren Commission that Agent Hosty had made a statement to the police, on 11/22/63, following the assassination, that "We knew he was capable of assassinating the President, but we didn't dream he would do it."

I told Shanklin that he should go ahead and get the affidavit from Agent Hosty and advise us as to its content, and thereafter get it notarized in the Dallas office.

Shanklin recommended that he not attempt to contact the police on this matter at this time. I told him that we contemplated contacting Mr. Rankin of the President's Commission, advising him of this story, advising him that Hosty denied it flatly; asking what the Dallas police testimony was before the Commission, and asking whether the Commission had leaked this to the press.

*valley*  
*sanctuary*

For information.

AHB:CSH (4)

*CSH*

62-109090

*Mr. Sullivan -*  
*Pls follow with*  
*Shanklin to get affidavit*  
*at once*

*[Signature]*

MAY 1 1964

SOVIET SECTION

PERM. REC. UNIT