

1/4/69

Dear P and G,

Attached is the 12/30/69 letter from Angel and my today's response. Bud spent the afternoon here, we got to cover little, I again feel overwhelmed with what is yet to be done, so I've asked for some of what I would have preferred going for in person.

While there need be nothing sinister about the deletion in O'Sullivan's testimony, I am perplexed that it was done without indication to the printers. This can be from an editing of galley proofs. However, there has been no indication this was done in other cases. Hence my request for an explanation. As a matter of fact, what was deleted was properly deleted. In the past I have indicated at least some of my interest in O'S to both of you. I have just discussed this briefly with Hal and I told Gary pretty much of the story when last he was here. I think. You will recall Vinson assured me these documents were under review the last year of the LBJ administration. That means this withheld document should have been declassified if the reason is personal stuff about Terrie, for it then was all a matter of public record and he was dead, without survivors.

Paul, I do not now recall whether any of the list of docs I asked for 11/22 or 23, aside from CD7:701, was classified. Apparently I got them all. I have yet to go over them. I believe they are all on Agnt (and still, with what I earlier had, not all on him).

All over again we have agreed to proceed separately and "immediately" on the King/Ray stuff, which is where we were two months ago and is but the last thing we discussed two weeks ago, when I asked Bud to estimate when he can have those papers ready. He says now, in an emergency, in two days. Without an emergency, he wants to research the 28 cases filed (Nader filed the 29th yesterday or the day before, vs Ag., in Balt.) to speak ~~xxx~~ to the lawyers who handled, if any are local. If he does this, and if there is any pressure of work in his office, a more realistic time might be two months.

We can have the microfilm of the Texas file. So far as I am concerned, this can mean Paul, and when I get it I'll send it to him. Bud is to call this man tomorrow and see when he can expect the printout. I suggested he assure the perfectionist we know much will be illegible and is beyond his control or influencing. He will also broach the question of some copies of COUP. In the a.m. I am sending Paul the only copy I have, a printout of this microfilm, in the event Garry wants it. Because it is my sole copy, I'd prefer that Garry pay for a xerox and we have this under our control. I also recommend against making any copies for us from this one because I expect a legal-size one back and when I get it I'll send it out. That will be much more readable when reduced by half than this. If my records are not wrong, Gary may have a copy. If it is the NCR copy, that will not substitute. If it is a xerox, it would be good if he sent that to Paul, insured for \$50.00, immediately, for I do need copies and one can then be made for him and Mary, etc. Re above. This guy has a microfilm of COUP (I).

Angel doesn't mention it, but they also replaced the bad copy of CE740. There is no doubt that the terrain immediate southwest of the manhole has been specially treated, as with a rake, washing or both. I'd like a photoanalysis.

Bud and I didn't have time to get into the JFK stuff suit.

Sincerely,

TESTIMONY OF FREDERICK S. O'SULLIVAN) <sup>with copy</sup>

The testimony of Frederick S. O'Sullivan was taken

at <sup>Dallas, Tex.</sup> on April 7<sup>th</sup> & 8, 1964, at the Old Civil Courts Building,

by Mr. Messrs. Wesley J. Liebeler,

Assistant Counsel of the President's Commission.

Royal and Conti Streets, New Orleans, La.

(plug)

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FREDERICK S. O'SULLIVAN,

having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

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BY MR. LIEBELER

Q. My name is Wesley J. Liebeler. I am a member of the legal staff of the President's Commission investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. Staff members have been authorized to take the testimony of witnesses by the Commission pursuant to authority granted to the Commission by Executive Order No. 11130, dated November 29, 1963, and Joint Resolution of Congress No. 137.

I understand that Mr. Rankin wrote to you last week telling you that I would be in touch with you concerning the taking of your testimony, and that he enclosed with his letter a copy of the Executive Order and the Joint Resolution just referred to, as well as a copy of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission relating to the taking of testimony of witnesses. □

Did you receive the letter?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the documents I referred to were enclosed with it; were they not?

A. Yes, sir.

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24 *Mr. Liebler* Q. One of the things the Commission is  
25 interested in is the background of Lee Harvey Oswald, the

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1 alleged assassin, to the extent that knowledge of his back-  
2 ground can assist the Commission in evaluating Mr. Oswald's  
3 possible motive, if it is true, as it was alleged, that he  
4 was the assassin. Before we get into the knowledge that you  
5 may have of Oswald, would you state your full name for the  
6 record.

*Mr. O'Sullivan* A. Frederick Stephen Patrick O'Sullivan.

8 Mr. LIEBLER. Q. What is your address, Mr. O'Sullivan?

9 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. 413 Heritage Avenue, Gretna, Louisiana.

10 Mr. LIEBLER. Q. You are a member of the New Orleans Police  
11 Department, as I understand. Is that correct?

12 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. I am.

13 Mr. LIEBLER. Q. And you are a detective on the Vice Squad?

14 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. Right.

15 Mr. LIEBLER. Q. How long have you been with the New Orleans  
16 Police Department?

17 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. Six years.

18 Mr. LIEBLER. Q. You were born here in New Orleans? Is that  
19 correct?

20 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. I was.

21 Mr. LIEBLER. Q. And how old are you now?

22 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. Twenty-six.

23 Mr. LIEBLER. Q. I understand that you knew Lee Oswald when  
24 he attended a Junior High School here in New Orleans. Is  
25 that correct?

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By *ASB* NWD

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1 Mr. O'Sullivan A. Yes; Beauregard Junior High.

2 Mr. Liebler Q. Beauregard Junior High?

3 Mr. O'Sullivan A. On Canal Street.

4 Mr. Liebler Q. Your own education included attendance at

5 Beauregard Junior High School?

6 Mr. O'Sullivan A. It did.

7 Mr. Liebler Q. How long did you go to Beauregard?

8 Mr. O'Sullivan A. One year.

9 Mr. Liebler Q. And where did you go prior to that time?

10 Mr. O'Sullivan A. St. Dominic's.

11 Mr. Liebler Q. St. Dominic's?

12 Mr. O'Sullivan A. ~~St.~~ Elementary School.

13 Mr. Liebler Q. Here in New Orleans?

14 Mr. O'Sullivan A. In Lakeview in New Orleans.

15 Mr. Liebler Q. And after you left Beauregard, where did

16 you go?

17 Mr. O'Sullivan A. I went to Warren Easton Senior High School.

18 Mr. Liebler Q. And that is here in New Orleans also? ~~Is~~

19 ~~that correct?~~

20 Mr. O'Sullivan A. Yes.

21 Mr. Liebler Q. And did you graduate from Warren Easton

22 High School?

23 Mr. O'Sullivan A. I did.

24 Mr. Liebler Q. Did you attend college at any place?

25 *Mr. Sullivan* Yes, I am in college in Loyola right now

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1 through a Police Department scholarship.

*Mr. Liebel* Q Tell us everything that you can remember  
3 about Oswald when you knew him at Beauregard Junior High  
4 School, how you met him, what contacts you had with him,  
5 just the whole story.

6 *Mr. O'Sullivan* A All right. I was a cadet in Civil Air  
7 Patrol, and while I was in Beauregard we were having a  
8 recruiting drive to get more cadet members in the New Orleans  
9 Squadron, and there were three fellows at the school that I  
10 talked to in particular about joining that. One was Joseph  
11 Thompson, one was Edward Voebel -- I am not sure how that  
12 name is spelled -- and Lee Harvey Oswald. My reason for  
13 asking Oswald to join was I noticed -- we had a drill team,  
14 we were real proud of our drill team.

15 *Mr. Liebel* Q This was a marching team?

16 *Mr. O'Sullivan* A A marching unit; yes, sir, and Oswald  
17 carried himself always erect, always gave the impression  
18 that he could be marching, that he may be marching, eyes  
19 straight ahead, head straight, shoulders back, so he  
20 impressed me as the sort of a fellow that would really fit  
21 well on the drill team. He seemed like he could -- well,  
22 he even gave the impression that he would make a pretty  
23 good leader if he ever got into the squadron, so with this  
24 recruiting drive I asked the three of them to come out to the  
25 airport. I explained what we did out there, marching and

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1 flying on the weekends and so forth to them at school.  
2 Joseph Thompson and Oswald and Voebel all three came out to  
3 the airport. Joe Thompson stayed in the squadron, and Oswald  
4 came to one or two meetings, possibly three, along with  
5 Voebel. However, Voebel then joined the Civil Air Patrol  
6 at Moisant Airport, and because he was a closer friend of  
7 Oswald, he evidently talked Oswald into coming out to the  
8 squadron he had joined.



9 ~~Mr. Lieberman~~ Q. At Moisant Field?

10 ~~Mr. O'Sullivan~~ Q. At Moisant Airport.

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11 ~~Mr. Lieberman~~ Q. Right.

12 ~~Mr. O'Sullivan~~ A. Yes. Incidentally, Oswald -- I didn't know  
13 this until I read it in the paper -- lived only a half a  
14 block from me for a short time. I lived in Lakeview at 800  
15 French Street, I believe, and he lived either in the 800 or  
16 the 700 block of French Street.

17 ~~Mr. Lieberman~~ Q. That would have been in 1963 when he came  
18 here to New Orleans? Is that correct?

19 ~~Mr. O'Sullivan~~ A. Oh, I didn't live there at that time. No,  
20 I moved from French Street around 1957.

21 ~~Mr. Lieberman~~ Q. Can you remember anything else about Oswald  
22 at the time he was in Beauregard Junior High School with you,  
23 about his friendships? Did he have many friends at that time,  
24 or do you recall?

25 ~~Mr. O'Sullivan~~ A. No. I believe he and I, because of the

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spelling of our last names, were possibly in the same home  
room in the morning, but I really don't recall anything. I  
don't recall much about any of the students at Beauregard or  
at Warren Easton. I sort of -- I was an athlete, and we  
stayed away from the rest of the students. They had a thing  
that they kept us away from the rest of the students pretty  
much.

Mr. LIEBELER - Q. You say you were an athlete at Beauregard?

Mr. O'SULLIVAN - A. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIEBELER - Q. What particular sport were you involved in?

Mr. O'SULLIVAN - A. Football and track, and the same at Warren  
Easton.

Mr. LIEBELER - Q. Did Oswald, as far as you know, ever have  
anything to do with sports activities?

Mr. O'SULLIVAN - A. No.

Mr. LIEBELER - Q. Do you remember whether Oswald and Voebel  
were close acquaintances at that time, or do you know?

Mr. O'SULLIVAN - A. Only in that Voebel left the New Orleans  
Squadron and went out to Moisant and evidently -- or I believe  
he talked Oswald into coming out there with him.

Mr. LIEBELER - Q. Now you don't know of your own knowledge  
whether or not Oswald ever did join the Civil Air Patrol, do  
you?

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No, I don't know that he signed any papers or had uniforms or anything. I know that he came out to

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*for these out.*

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1 New Orleans Airport and attended some of the meetings, but  
2 whether he just -- you see, a lot of time people would come  
3 out and sit in the classes to decide whether they wanted to  
4 join or not. We will allow this, hoping to get more cadets.  
5 I don't know that he ever signed any papers or joined. You  
6 can check with the Louisiana Wing Headquarters and they can  
7 give it to you.

8 *Mr. Liebler* Q You don't know whether Oswald ever did  
9 actually go out to Moisant Field to Civil Air Patrol Meetings  
10 at that place?

11 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A No.

12 Mr. LIEBLER. Q Did you have rifles as a part of your  
13 Civil Air Patrol program? Did you have rifle practice and  
14 drill with rifles?

15 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A We didn't drill with rifles, but we did  
16 belong to the N.R.A. and we did fire rifles on the range, and  
17 also when we went to summer camp we would fire on the range.

18 Mr. LIEBLER. Q N.R.A. is the National Rifle Association?  
19 Is that correct?

20 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A Correct.

21 Mr. LIEBLER. Q What kind of rifles did you fire when you  
22 went to summer camp?

23 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A Now I am getting summer camp mixed up with  
24 the National Guard. I believe we fired .22's in the C.A.P.

25 ~~Q~~ Did you ever observe Oswald engage in rifle

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1 practice of any kind in connection with C.A.P. activities?

2 ~~Mr. O'Sullivan~~ Mr. O'Sullivan -A- No, sir.

3 Mr. LEEBEN ~~Q~~ Do you know whether or not Oswald ever did  
4 engage in any rifle practice in connection with the C.A.P.?

5 Mr. O'SULLIVAN -A- No, sir.

6 Mr. LEEBEN ~~Q~~ <sup>Do</sup> Now-did you know David Ferrie, F-e-r-r-i-e?

7 Mr. O'SULLIVAN -A- Yes, sir, I know him.

8 Mr. LEEBEN ~~Q~~ Do you know of any connection between Oswald  
9 and David Ferrie?

10 Mr. O'SULLIVAN -A- No. I have no personal knowledge of anything.

11 Mr. LEEBEN ~~Q~~ Ferrie was involved with the C.A.P. Squadron  
12 at New Orleans Airport at the time Voebel and Oswald came out  
13 to join it? Is that correct?

14 Mr. O'SULLIVAN -A- Ferrie was in charge of the squadron, and  
15 then there was a Captain Hinton. Now I was in the squadron  
16 for six years, so I am not sure who was in charge at what  
17 particular time. I am not sure. He could have been. He  
18 may have been, but I am not sure. I know that when he left  
19 the New Orleans Squadron, Ferrie did have something to do with  
20 the Moisant Squadron, so he may have. If he wasn't in charge  
21 when Oswald was out at New Orleans Airport, he may have been  
22 in charge when he went to Moisant Airport.

23 Mr. LEEBEN ~~Q~~ But you don't know of any time that Oswald  
24 associated with or knew Ferrie through the Civil Air Patrol?

25 Mr. O'SULLIVAN -A- No, I am not sure of any.

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Now you said that you had no personal know-  
ledge or no direct knowledge of any relationship between  
Oswald and Ferrie?

Mr. Sullivan, No.

Mr. Lieberer. Q. Do you have any information that would lead  
you to believe that there was a relationship between these  
two men?

Mr. O'Sullivan. A. Only that when all of this broke with Oswald,  
I went through all of the old C.A.P. files that were avail-  
able, trying to get some information for the Secret Service,  
the people who had called me up at home, and --

Mr. Lieberer. Q. Where were these files located?

Mr. O'Sullivan. A. These files are in the possession of one  
Robert Boylston.

Mr. Lieberer. Q. And who was he?

Mr. O'Sullivan. A. He was also a member of the C.A.P. at the  
time we all were, at New Orleans.

Mr. Lieberer. Q. And how did the records come to be in his  
possession?

Mr. O'Sullivan. A. He is a senior member now. He has maybe  
recently dropped out, but he was a senior member and these  
records were just turned over to him in the whole filing  
cabinet. They are all old records. I am trying to get the  
thing straight in my mind. Of course, I have been trying to  
get it straight in my mind, just what I know and what I have

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- 1 heard. It gets kind of confusing when you read so much.
- 2 Sometimes you remember things that you don't really remember,
- 3 you know.

4 *Mr. Linder* Q. Did you find anything in these files that  
5 related to Ferrie or Oswald? 730200 20089

6 *Mr. O'Sullivan* A. Well, we found papers signed by Ferrie but  
7 nothing in relation to Oswald. His name wasn't mentioned in  
8 anything at all that we could find, so we assumed at that  
9 time that Oswald was in the Moisant Squadron. I believe they  
10 even had in the paper the dates, and we checked those par-  
11 ticular dates and it turned out that Ferrie was in a  
12 transition between the New Orleans Squadron and the Moisant  
13 Squadron in these dates, so he could have been involved  
14 either way with Oswald. I don't know if he was involved,  
15 he could have been.

16 *Mr. Linder* Q. But you found nothing in the files?

17 *Mr. O'Sullivan* A. Nothing concrete.

18 *Mr. Linder* Q. ~~That~~ that you investigated as to the relation  
19 between Oswald and Ferrie?

20 *Mr. O'Sullivan* A. No.

21 *Mr. Linder* Q. Am I correct in understanding that there has  
22 been publicity here in the New Orleans area concerning a  
23 possible relationship between Oswald and Ferrie?

24 *Mr. O'Sullivan* A. Yes, sir. I believe Captain Ferrie was  
25 arrested. I am sure he was arrested, and I believe it was in

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1 connection with this Oswald situation. He was booked at the  
2 First District Station. I don't know just what he was  
3 charged with, I believe just 107, under investigation of  
4 whatever it was, I don't know.

5 Mr. LIEBELLER. Q. Now you go ahead.

6 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. Lieutenant Dwyer, Paul Dwyer, from the  
7 New Orleans Police Department, Intelligence Division, I  
8 accompanied him out to New Orleans Airport where we found  
9 Dave Ferrie's airplane. We wanted to check it to see if it  
10 was flyable, to see possibly whether he had been flying it  
11 lately, with the thought that he may have transported  
12 Oswald to Dallas. This isn't my thought, this was brought  
13 up to me, and we found his plane, but his plane was not in  
14 flyable condition. It had flat tires, instruments missing,  
15 needed a paint job. We also checked to see if he had rented  
16 an aircraft from any of the companies out there, and one  
17 company in particular said <sup>by</sup> that they wouldn't rent him an  
18 airplane.

19 Mr. LIEBELLER. Q. Did they tell you why?

20 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. No.

21 Mr. LIEBELLER. Q. You are a detective on the Vice Squad? Is  
22 that correct?

23 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. Yes, sir.

24 Mr. LIEBELLER. Q. Are you assigned to a particular aspect of  
25 vice activities here in New Orleans?

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*Q* Mr. Liebler A No, sir. There are only nine of us to cover  
2 the whole city. Therefore, we handle any vice, gambling,  
3 prostitution, homosexuals, handbooks. Anything that comes  
4 under the vice laws, we handle.

*Q* Mr. O'Sullivan You have never had any contact with Ferrie  
6 in connection with your activities on the Vice Squad? In  
7 that correct?

8 Mr. O'Sullivan A No, Ferrie lives or he did live in  
9 Jefferson Parish. We have no authority in Jefferson Parish.  
10 I know that Ferrie was arrested or was accused of some  
11 vice -- well, violating some vice laws, I believe having to  
12 do with homosexuals, about two or three years ago, but I  
13 don't have any personal knowledge of this.

14 Mr. Liebler Q Now see if you can recall or think back to  
15 your experiences in the Beauregard Junior High School, and  
16 tell us if you can remember anything else or if there is  
17 anything else that you want to add what you have already said  
18 about your knowledge of Oswald and his activities at the time  
19 he was at Beauregard Junior High School.

20 Mr. O'Sullivan A Well, I have put quite a bit of thought on  
21 this ever since it all happened, especially since I have  
22 gotten this correspondence relative to what I know about it,  
23 and as much as I would like to help you as much as I can, I  
24 just can't think of anything else. I don't want to say  
25 something I am not sure of. Well, actually, even if I thought

1 of something, I would tell you and tell you I am not sure, but  
2 there is nothing else I can think of.

3 Mr. LEECH. Q. All right. I have no other questions at this  
4 time, and if there is nothing else that you want to add to  
5 the record, ~~I want to thank you very much for coming here and~~  
6 ~~giving the testimony you have given.~~ On behalf of the  
7 Commission, I want to thank you very much for your  
8 cooperation.

9 Mr. O'SULLIVAN. A. Yes, sir. Thank you.

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15 ~~....Thereupon, the taking of the witness's~~  
16 ~~testimony was concluded....~~  
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1 of something, I would tell you and tell you I am not sure, but  
2 there is nothing else I can think of.

3 ~~Mr. L...~~ Q. All right. I have no other questions at this  
4 time, and if there is nothing else that you want to add to  
5 the record, ~~I want to thank you very much for coming here and~~  
6 ~~giving the testimony you have given.~~ On behalf of the  
7 Commission, I want to thank you very much for your  
8 cooperation.

9 Mr. O'Sullivan. A. Yes, sir. Thank you.

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15 ~~....Thereupon, the taking of the witness's~~  
16 ~~testimony was concluded....~~  
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