

JD 87, docs from brief, incomplete review of 10/25/69

Gary and Paul,

Last week I ordered a number of documents from this file, which I then looked at for the first time in three and a half years. I got them yesterday. At least one is missing. That one is the letter to ~~the~~ Oswald from Cuba after he was murdered. If I gave either of you a list of what I'd ordered last week, I'd like the control numbers from it so my renewed request can be specific.

Attached to the copy of this memo to Paul is the best copy I could make of Cont 470. It is to illustrate the futility of trying to copy some of these. Those clear enough I will try. If you want this, I suggest you ask for it from a file other than 3087.

It apparently is the origin of the rumor that Oswald got small money orders. However, it is interesting that after their initial refusal to go over their files without a subpoena or court order, WU agreed also to look for collect telegrams, presumably outgoing from the Dallas office.

This report is date 12/5/63. Original source, Robert Worley, Dallas T-4. His informant, Remblen.

It is my recollection the Commission really left this possibility not really conclusively answered.

CD 87

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

ORIGIN Field OFFICE Dallas FILE NO. CO-2-34,030

TYPE OF CASE <u>Protective Research</u>	STATUS <u>Continued</u>	TITLE OR CAPTION <u>Assassination of President Kennedy; Dallas, Texas</u>
INVESTIGATION MADE AT <u>Dallas, Texas</u>	PERIOD COVERED <u>November 30 - December 4, 1963</u>	
INVESTIGATION MADE BY <u>SA John J. Gifford and SA W. H. Patterson</u>		

DETAILS

SYNOPSIS

Newspaper article in Dallas Times Herald stated Lee Harvey Oswald had received communications from Western Union. Arrangements made for Western Union to attempt to identify these communications. Information on these communications, if any, will be given jointly to FBI and this Service.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Reference is made to previous reports.

Object Investigations

In response to an article appearing in the Dallas Times Herald on November 18, 1963, regarding Western Union Communications to Lee Harvey Oswald, efforts were made to determine the source of this story and to obtain all possible communications relating to Lee Harvey Oswald from Western Union.

On November 30, 1963, I contacted Mr. George Warren, Western Union Weekend Supervisor, who advised he had no information regarding any communications or money orders received by Oswald and had no idea where the information came from that was in the newspaper article.

Later that day SA W. H. Patterson and I interviewed Robert Fenley, reporter for the Dallas Times Herald, at his home at 3701 Maryland, Dallas, Texas. Mr. Fenley stated that on November 28, 1963, while writing a story for Time Magazine at Western Union, he was engaged in a conversation with C. A. Hamblen, the night manager. Mr. Hamblen

COPIES <u>Orig. & 2</u>	REPORT MADE BY <u>John J. Gifford</u>	DATE <u>12-5-63</u>
	SPECIAL AGENT	
2	APPROVED <u>W. H. Patterson</u>	DATE <u>12-5-63</u>
	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <u>470</u>	

mentioned Lee Harvey Oswald. Mr. Fenley seized upon this opportunity to question Mr. Hamblen regarding any information he might be able to furnish on Oswald. Hamblen advised Mr. Fenley that Oswald had received small amounts of money for several months prior to the assassination of President Kennedy. Hamblen recalled Oswald sending a telegram a few days before the assassination and even demonstrated to Mr. Fenley the peculiar way Oswald wrote the message. Mr. Hamblen added that Oswald would invariably argue or cause contention over the most insignificant things and Hamblen took it upon himself to personally wait on Oswald whenever he came in. Hamblen recalled Oswald received several money orders for \$10 and one for possibly \$20.00.

On December 1, 1963, after the interview with Mr. Fenley the previous night, I again contacted Western Union, and was advised that all the records were locked up and could not be reviewed until 8:00 AM on December 2, 1963, and with the authority of the District Manager Larry Wilcox. Arrangements were made to interview Mr. Wilcox at 8:00 AM on December 2, 1963, and possibly to review the files at that time.

Later that day Inspector Kelley was contacted by Western Union who advised that they had similar inquiries from the FBI. Western Union requested, therefore, that the Secret Service Agent contact SA Charlie Brown, FBI, and make arrangements to jointly conduct this phase of the investigation at 8:00 AM on December 3, 1963. At Inspector Kelley's request, I contacted the FBI and requested SA Brown call me. SA Brown returned my call at 8:30 AM on December 2, 1963, and arrangements were made to go to Western Union together as soon as he was free from his early morning conference.

On December 3, 1963, at approximately 8:00 AM, I contacted Mr. Larry Wilcox, District Manager of Western Union, Dallas, Texas, to advise him that SA Brown, FBI, was in conference and would not be able to make the 8:00 AM appointment. Mr. Wilcox advised me that he would give absolutely no information to any investigative agency without benefit of a court order specifying a particular communication on a specific date.

This matter was then discussed with Assistant U. S. Attorney E. H. Timms, Jr. who advised he would issue a blanket subpoena, if necessary.

Subsequently the FBI contacted Inspector Kelley and advised that they could possibly obtain the information through a confidential source. Efforts were made to have a subpoena issued. It was agreed that we would request a subpoena pending notification from the FBI.

On December 4, 1963, a meeting was held at the Western Union Office to discuss the possibility of obtaining all information in their files

regarding Lee Harvey Oswald. Present at this meeting were District Manager L. H. Wilcox, District Administrative Manager T. C. Durnal, and Bookkeeping Business Manager E. T. Pirile, SA Brown, FBI, and myself. At this meeting it was determined that Western Union would check all their communications sent collect and paid, money orders received and paid for the period September 1, 1963, to November 22, 1963. Mr. Wilcox advised that when this was completed and if any information were developed he would turn it over to their Gulf Coast Manager Mr. Semington who in turn would contact the FBI and Secret Service so that the proper legal steps could be taken to obtain these communications.

JJG:amr