

HW:

Too soon to say, but this looks like it might be the beginning of a pre-emptive leak campaign to prepare the public for more to come. Nothing like raking up the old ignored angles to distract attention from serious information that's on its way. The SF Chron, meanwhile, has begun a five-part daily series of articles basically putting the local FBI bureau and its SAC (Charles Bates) in a good light. Don't see this tying in with you letter in Spanish from Mexico City, but one never knows.

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SF Chronicle SEP 1 1975

# Oswald Note Threatened FBI Agent

## Washington

Lee Harvey Oswald delivered a note threatening an FBI agent a few days before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, but the visit was never reported and the note was destroyed, the FBI has disclosed.

FBI Director Clarence J. Kelley said in a statement Saturday that "inquiries to date establish that the note contained no reference to President Kennedy or in any way would have forewarned of the subsequent assassination."

The FBI said it learned of the incident as a result of information provided by the Dallas Times Herald, and Kelley said the investigation is continuing.

Kelley said the note was delivered to the FBI office in Dallas by Oswald and was addressed to an agent who had visited Oswald's wife, Marina, as part of an investigation. Details of the note were not clear, but it apparently warned the agent not to attempt further interviews.

"Prior to the current FBI inquiries there had been no information concerning this visit and note recorded in FBI records and inquiries tend to corroborate that shortly after the assassination the note in question was destroyed," Kelley said.

The FBI visit to the Oswald home was described in the Warren Report as part of a routine check on persons who had lived in Communist nations. Oswald and his wife lived in the Soviet Union

in the early 1960s.

Oswald was named in that report as the sole assassin of Kennedy, on Nov. 22, 1963.

Oswald was not placed under surveillance after his delivery of the note, according to a copyright story by publisher Tom Johnson in Sunday editions of the Times Herald.

The story said the agent then in charge of the Dallas FBI office, J. Gordon Shanklin, reported he never knew of the Oswald letter. Shanklin, the newspaper said, identified the agent who visited Mrs. Oswald as James P. Hosty Jr., now stationed in Kansas City.

"I am not in a position to say anything on that," the newspaper quoted Hosty as saying.

The newspaper quoted a source as saying, "I don't believe that (J. Edgar) Hoover or Mr. Shanklin ever knew of the existence of the letter. They would have gone through the roof."

The Times Herald said Mrs. Oswald was contacted on November 1 but she became frightened and the agent left, apparently because of her inability to under-

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stand English well. Oswald was not present.

Another attempt was made to interview her November 5, but was not successful, the newspaper said.

The Times Herald said Kelley's investigation is aimed at possible criminal violations in connection with the destruction of the note and failure to report the visit by Oswald.

Kelley said Attorney General Edward Levi has been kept informed of the progress of the investigation.

*Associated Press*



SEP 2 1975  
SF Chronicle  
**FBI 'Coverup' on Oswald Reported**

Houston

For at least five months after the assassination of President Kennedy, the FBI and the Dallas police covered up a conversation indicating the FBI knew before the slaying that Lee Harvey Oswald was a threat to the President, the Houston Chronicle reported yesterday.

The newspaper also reported that the Warren Commission, which investigated the 1963 assassination, did not fully look into the reported conversation when it learned of it in May, 1964.

J. E. Curry, then Dallas police chief, informed Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren of the FBI's reported prior knowledge in a registered letter, the Chronicle said. The newspaper printed a copy in yesterday's edition.

Curry wrote:

"On that date (November 22), before newsmen, I stated that I had received information that the FBI knew of Oswald's presence in

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Dallas and that the Dallas Police Department had no information on Oswald in its files. This statement was based on the report of Lieutenant (Jack) Revill."

Three hours after Mr. Kennedy was killed, Revill said he ran into FBI agent James Hosty in the basement of the Dallas City Hall. Hosty told Revill that the FBI knew that Oswald could be a threat to the president, Revill said in a statement he eventually repeated to the Warren Commission.

Contacted by the Chronicle, Revill stood by his statement.

"It (the meeting) happened," Revill said. "I know it happened, and Hosty knows it happened."

Revill said he returned to the police department with Hosty's information and wrote it down for Chief Curry, who then told newsmen that the FBI knew of Oswald's presence in Dallas.

In the registered letter to Warren, Curry wrote:

"Within a few minutes of my statement to the press, I received a telephone call from Mr. Gordon Shanklin, special agent in charge of the Dallas office of the FBI, in which Mr. Shanklin stated that the bureau was extremely desir-

ous that I retract my statement to the press. I then appeared before the press again and retracted my statement . . . ."

Curry also told Revill to keep silent about the information, according to Curry's letter to Warren.

When contacted by the Chronicle, Curry said: "There's no doubt in my mind that his agent told my agent (Revill) what he did."

If the FBI had told him about Oswald, Curry said, "I'd have had somebody sitting on him."

Curry now says he would have acted differently after receiving Shanklin's call.

"I probably would have (revealed Revill's whole statement) even though I'd know it would make the FBI mad as hell because I had confidence in my lieutenant that gave me the information and it was checked out and found to be true," he told the Chronicle.

Hosty is now an FBI agent based in Kansas City.

"I'm still with the bureau," he told the Chronicle. "I like my job. I can't say anything about anything."

Shanklin, now an attorney in Dallas, denied asking Curry to suppress the information.

"I may have called Curry about one thing or another," Shanklin said, "but I don't remember calling him to tell him to suppress anything. I don't know what he's talking about."

The Chronicle said a copy of the Revill statement and other data indicating a five-month coverup of his statement are on record in the Texas State Archives in Austin, Tex., as part of an assassination investigation made by the Texas Court of Inquiry.

*United Press*