

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*[Handwritten notes and signatures in the top right corner, including a large checkmark and initials.]*

TO: Mr. Mohr  
DATE: December 2, 1963  
FROM: C. D. DeLoach  
SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT

Reference is made to the attached copy of the Drew Pearson column in Washington Post 12-2-63. This column unfavorably criticizes the FBI, Secret Service and the Dallas police.

Many of our news media friends have called me and the men in this office today concerning Pearson's unjust and unfounded remarks. These men offered to literally "take Pearson apart" if we will just give them the go-ahead. They have volunteered to start an effective campaign against Pearson for his attack on the FBI.

While certainly a campaign against Pearson would be justified, the fact remains that to effectively refute Pearson, our friends would necessarily have to bring up and rehash the charges made by Pearson. This is believed undesirable. We are, therefore, informing our friends that we have no comment to make on it and would prefer that no action be taken.

Enclosure

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Jones
- 1 - Mr. Morrell

REW:saj  
(8)

*[Large handwritten note:]*  
Unfortunately we are not in a position to complete it  
Pearson →

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162-109060  
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- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

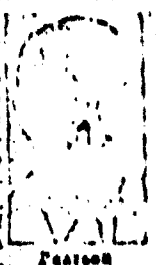
The Washington Post and Times Herald

# FBI, Secret Service Need Study

By Drew Pearson

There are three Government agencies that are sacrosanct: far as congressional investigation or criticism is concerned: the Secret Service and Central Intelligence Agency. In the interest of protecting the life of the President, however, it is my belief that a rigorous investigation of the first two should be undertaken.

Here are some facts that could be investigated:



**The Secret Service—Six Secret Service men charged with protecting the President were at the Fort Worth Press Club early in the morning of Friday, Nov. 22, some of them until nearly 3 a.m. This was the day that President Kennedy was assassinated. They were in the building when they departed, and were reported en route to an all-night beatnik rendezvous, "The Cellar."**

**The Secret Service, which has done a notably good job in the past, prides itself on having men who will give their lives for the President. They are charged with throwing their own bodies in front of the President in case of attack.**

**For the sake of maintaining its splendid reputation, the Secret Service should disclose to the public the names of the men who were on duty that night, and the time they spent on the job. This would be a commendable act of candor and it might make known that the**

**Secret Service men who have been protecting until nearly 3 a.m. are in no condition to be in the best physical shape to protect any one.**

**It has been stated that it was an impossibility for the Secret Service to check the occupancy of every building along the route. While this is true, it is also true that warehouse type buildings, such as that in which the assassin hid, should be searched, and the extra time spent by Secret Service men at the Fort Worth Press Club could have been spent in doing so.**

## Fort Worth Press Club

**What happened at Fort Worth was that the Press Club, which is supposed to close at 10 p.m. under local liquor laws, quit word inviting Vice President Johnson and Gov. Connally, both honorary members, to come over, and on that excuse stayed open after hours. Neither Johnson nor Connally accepted the invitation, but the Club stayed open anyway.**

**When I asked Calvin Sutton, president of the Club, he explained that "A lot of big killers were in town whom we had heard about but never seen in person, so we took the liberty of staying open. We shouldn't have done it, but we did it for our country."**

**They surprised me when they arrived, but they all had great spirits. They got in about 11 or a little later."**

**Sutton said it was 3 a.m. when he locked up and the Secret Service men left ahead of him.**

**"They wanted to know where 'The Cellar' was, and I told them. But I did my best to discourage them. I don't know whether they went or not."**

**Sutton said they seemed to be in pretty good shape when they left.**

## File of Suspects

**The FBI—in Dallas, police stated that the FBI had interviewed Lee Oswald but had not informed them about the interview. In Washington, the FBI denied they had interviewed Oswald recently.**

**Whether he was interviewed recently or a long time ago, it is the job of the protective agencies of government to check on each suspect in any city the President visits and to make sure where he is at the time of the visit.**

**A man who had been in Dallas of a Fair Play for Cuba Committee, who had preached Marxism, and whose record showed a mixed-up, unsteady emotionalism, should have been kept under careful watch on the day the President entered his city—one of the most lawless and intolerant cities in the United States.**

**The Secret Service keeps a file of people who have written threatening letters to the President or who are otherwise suspected. If Oswald was on their list, the FBI should have communicated with the Secret Service after they interviewed him, and it**

*Angie*

- The Washington Post and Times Herald **P-32**
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
  - The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_
  - New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_
  - New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_
  - New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_
  - New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
  - New York Post \_\_\_\_\_
  - The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
  - The Worker \_\_\_\_\_
  - The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_
  - The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
  - The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_
  - People's World \_\_\_\_\_

Date **62-109061-2**  
**DEC 2 1953**

*Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom right of the page.*

photographs of Oswald pass-  
ing out pre-arranged letters  
were shown on television the  
day and the Secret Service  
should have been able to catch  
him without too much  
trouble.  
It is true that there has been  
some talk of a "four by be-  
hind" the FBI and the Secret  
Service, but that they are  
not they should stop speak-  
ing over jurisdiction and  
handing at least where the  
life of the President is con-  
cerned.  
The Dallas police I was in-  
formed on the night day pre-  
sented Oswald was shot I was  
not there when the alleged in-  
cident took place and that  
the FBI is in possession of  
the film of the television  
news program which was shown  
that night. The police did not know  
that this was the case  
and that Oswald had in them  
that night. It was not until  
later that the Secret Service  
was informed of the incident.  
I was in Dallas on the night  
of the assassination and I  
was in the area where the  
shooting took place. I was  
not there when the alleged in-  
cident took place and that  
the FBI is in possession of  
the film of the television  
news program which was shown  
that night. The police did not know  
that this was the case  
and that Oswald had in them  
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