

Curry Phone

11/25/66

Dear Jerry,

Remember, at the ABA meeting, I said, "Gimme six hours sleep and!.." Well, I got 5 1/2 last night and I was laying abed this morning, think, It came to me that I should have called the third chapter of WHITEWASH II "Prelude To Murder" instead of "The Curry Phone", and then it came to me that here was something simple enough for the average intelligent person to understand without a whole book to make sense of it.

So here, for you use, is the original copy of an FBI report that I use on page 30 of Part 1 of WHITEWASH II. It is part of the Commission file numbered ~~1122x~~ 1321. In file 1196 there is the phoney bit of the FBI waiting until the end of June 1964 to learn why Chief Jesse Curry's phone didn't work when everybody was trying to get hold of him because of the threats of murder against Oswald that all the police agencies got the ~~sixxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ early morning of November 24, the day he was actually murdered. I go into this in WHITEWASH, if you do not recall it. No cop of whatever rank would do a thing without the word of the chief, and he was not available, and for more than three hours it seems never to have occurred to anyone to send a scout car out, so Oswald did not get moved (there was no requirement that he be moved) to the sheriff's jail.

On June 24 - that late - Dallas FBI Agent Vincent E Drain "interviewed" Curry, who he probably saw every day - it was all first-name stuff outside the report- and was told that no member of the Curry household, according to Curry, "to the best of his memory on the morning of November 24, 1963, between 5:30 a.m. and 7 a.m." was using the phone. This is phoney enough because Curry was asleep at 5:30, was awakened by the cops at ~~2:00~~ 6:30, when Curry used the phone and found it working. Apparently this was just a little too thin, because Vince interviewed Curry again July 16. Enclosed is the entire text of that interview, a palpable bit of nonsense. There is no indication why there was a reinterview other than what this says. This is the entire report. Some chief of Police! Some FBI in vestigation! Do you believe that with the entire stink about the chief's phone ringing busy all night long the chief's wife, if that is what she of her own did, never told her husband that she took the phone off the hook? Had it not been for this incident, all of history might have been different, for there would then have been no excuse for not moving Oswald in the dark of night and in an unmarked car, as the sheriff wanted to do and as his deputy volunteered to do a little after 2 a.m.

Please return this after you use it, if you do.

Strange, the little incidents around which history is made and written. All of US history could have been changed by this little incident.

Can you imagine mature men in the FBI and on the Commission staff swallowing this? They dared not include it in their Report.

Hope it does what you want, that it is as comprehensible as I think it can be to the non-investigative mind. The identification of the FBI on the forms ~~make~~ be an attraction in itself to most of your readers, if you reproduce it. But if you do, make your own Xeroxed copy and return these to me, for I want these undamaged. They show where I got them.

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Sincerely,