

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : FILE (44-1639)

DATE: 11/24/63

FROM : SAC, SHANKLIN

SUBJECT: JACK LEON RUBY, aka
'LEE HARVEY OSWALD - VICTIM
CR

By [unclear] instructions

*SAC instructed Chief Curry
Publicity
SAC instructed DA [unclear]
SAC instructed to [unclear]*

Per instructions of Mr. BELMONT, at 3:15 PM this date I personally talked to Chief of Police JESSE CURRY and advised him that the FBI felt that his appearances and that of Captain WILL FRITZ on television in connection with the LEE HARVEY OSWALD case were hurting the possibility "prior to his being killed" of prosecution. By giving out all the evidence developed, it was definite that they were building up prejudice against OSWALD and that certainly a good attorney could get a change of venue. I advised him I had talked to my headquarters and that they were displeased with this and I understood that President JOHNSON was concerned about the premature publicity. I pointed out to him that in connection with the shooting of OSWALD by RUBY, that television appearances and radio talks would appear to me to be extremely dangerous to a successful prosecution, and that in my opinion, he certainly should not.

Chief CURRY assured me that he was aware that he had made a mistake in appearing too much on television. He assured me that he was going to attempt to control Captain FRITZ, and that he was not going to authorize the giving out of all the details on television. He did point out that of course, news media, television representatives from every possible place were in the corridors taking pictures, but he did assure me that he was not going to make any more wild statements. He stated he would immediately get in touch with Captain FRITZ.

ADDENDUM

J. R. MALLEY, *Durb*

Information was received that District Attorney HENRY WADE was going to talk to the press and other news media concerning the OSWALD matter. Effort was made to try

② - Dallas
JGS:mfr
(2) *mfr*

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and reach WADE prior to his discussion with the news representatives. When located, he was already talking, with TV cameras present, and other news people. Following his conversation, Agent FLANNIGAN got hold of WADE and requested that he talk to SAC SHANKLIN. SHANKLIN put me in touch with District Attorney WADE, and I explained to Mr. WADE that President JOHNSON had talked to Director HOOVER this evening and expressed his grave concern over the amount of information that was being given out concerning the events that had been taking place in Dallas, particularly the amount of information concerning information being developed relative to the OSWALD case.

District Attorney WADE stated that he had been told by Chief of Police CURRY that SAC SHANKLIN had mentioned to him that too much information was being given out to the news representatives, but that he was getting pressure from all over the country as to whether the right man had been taken into custody by the Dallas Police Department.

WADE stated that he felt that in all fairness to the Dallas Police Department, they had performed a commendable job in connection with the handling of the shooting of the President, but of course he could not say very much for the handling of OSWALD as a prisoner today.

He stated that in order to satisfy people throughout the country, he felt that it was only fair to give sufficient facts to show that there was no question that OSWALD was the man responsible for the shooting of the President. He stated that had he known of President JOHNSON's concern over the issuing of information concerning the OSWALD matter or that the Director was concerned, he would not have furnished information, and he had nothing further to say at the present time and that he would bear the conversation he had with me in mind.

WADE is obviously trying to cover up now for the information that has been put out. He admits that the Chief of Police expressed SAC SHANKLIN's concern over the publicity given and obviously was looking after his own interests and nothing more.

I spoke to Captain WILL FRITZ at 10:55 PM and advised him that President JOHNSON had expressed considerable concern over the amount of publicity that was emanating from the various sources in Dallas concerning the events that had transpired.

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FRITZ immediately went on the defensive and inquired as to whether or not he personally had been responsible for any information to the press that was undesirable. I told Captain FRITZ that I had not been in town long enough to know what information he or anyone else had given out; that I was merely passing on to him the personal request of the President that information concerning matters be held to an absolute minimum and that the results of investigation and evidentiary matters not be disclosed at this time.

Captain FRITZ stated he was receiving telephone calls from all over the United States and foreign countries, and that he would like to state that he had been requested by the FBI not to disclose any information.

I told FRITZ that under no condition should he state that the FBI was making this request; that the President had requested that the FBI conduct an investigation concerning the events that had taken place today in Dallas concerning the shooting of OSWALD and that we were doing so, and that I did not feel that we should quote the President as asking that information not be furnished; that I thought any inquiry that he had could be answered by simply stating that a full investigation of the matters that have occurred is being made and at such time as full facts were developed and completely run out, information would be made available, but not until.

Capt. FRITZ immediately stated that he was greatly concerned over the situation and that he understood from some of the radio broadcasts and TV broadcasts that there was some dissatisfaction with the cooperation that was being afforded by the Dallas Police Department, and wanted to know if I knew of any such events.

I told him that I personally had no knowledge of such matters; that if any such situations occurred that I would discuss the same with the Chief of Police.