

Rothermel

4/17/79

Dear Earl,

Thanks for your 5/14 and the enclosed copies of your stories. "nobody sends them any more so I am not up to date on what you do.

I had no doubt about the basic accuracy of the FBI's info attributed to Rothermel because I knew he knew these things and once upon a time how he knew them. I had discussed at least one of those threats with him, the Walker-related students at Denton State.

I have no recollection of an alleged left-wing planned demonstration.

I do not see Penn's newsletter unless someone sends me a copy. Long ago I decided that the best way of not having some of them get mad at me for not subscribing to all of them was to subscribe to none. Most of what they carry is trash anyway. I've seen some good pieces in an occasional issue of Penn's and some of your pieces. I was not aware of the Soutra/Roux one.

On your FOIA request for the files on you may I suggest that you amend it to include PA? If you do this they can't charge you search fees under PA and anything of a personal nature or otherwise nasty is not to be disclosed to others if you do it under PA. It is safer to use both.

If you do not specify the field offices they generally limit themselves to what they do not want to avoid at FBIHQ and provide nothing from the FO files. In your case you'd certainly want to include Dallas, perhaps Milwaukee.

If you've asked only Dallas they will not include FBIHQ, which does have what the FOs do not, especially in the form of notes added to copies of stories.

Your hunch on the leak of the Hosty/Oswald story sounds like the best I've heard to date, a former KC FO clerk. Or was it an SA? If you can amplify this in any way I'd like to file that with the file I've made on records relating to that flap.

It makes sense that such a person would await Shanklin's retirement because it was certain that he in particular could not tell the truth. And didn't, by the way.

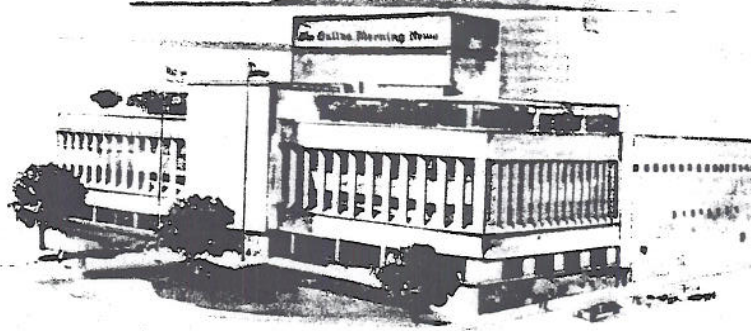
What is surprising is the number of people who knew the story and said nothing outside the FBI.

The size of the file I've accumulated precludes my offering to make copies of to review it with the other work I can't get done but if your people should ever develop any interest they'd be welcome to access and copies. It is a classic non-investigation, with such tidbits as typical chest-thumping at FBIHQ as extensive obliterations under "national security" claim as "this proves that we have absolutely nothing to hide."

They all sleep with Orwell under the pillow.

Best wishes,

The Dallas Morning News



May 14 79

Dear Harold:

Thanks very much for that FBI report about my information of Paul Rothermel. I can't even guess who the three-lettered last name person might be, unless it's a code name like T-1. The report was pretty accurate, ~~down~~ down to its Nov. 4, 1963, date. It reads "there have been unconfirmed reports of possible violence during the parade. The FBI and Police Department each have planted

an informant in the General Walker group here in Dallas as well as the North Texas State Group. The North Texas State informant is reporting information that would indicate that that group may be planning an incident. There is another report from a leftwing group that an incident will occur with the knowledge of the President whereby the leftwingers will start the incident in hopes of dragging in any of the right side groups or individuals ~~in the area~~ nearby and then withdrawing. The talk is that the incident involving Adlai Stevenson made the present administration hopeful in that if they could get the same thing to happen to Kennedy it could reassure his election.

"The above information comes from a reliable informant and while it is in the hands of law enforcement agencies there is no publicity about it. If an incident were to occur, the true story of who perpetrated it would never come out."

I have requested under FOI my file from the FBI to see if any other three-letter names are deleted in other reports.

I am not sure who leaked the Hosty letter story to the Herald. But I know Robert Dudney of that newspaper had a college friend who worked in the FBI office in KC--probably him.

I have enclosed some of the recent stories I have written. Maybe you have seen them in Penn Jones' publication.

Jones' most recent publication has a story by Gary Shaw about Jean Souetre. I called the FBI in Washington and they told me they had resolved the Souetre issue: the man they were trying to find was Michel Roux, coincidentally the same name as one of Souetre's aliases. So I have requested under FOI the full file on the Souetre case. Shaw, who was quite taken back by this revelation, doesn't think they will send me the file.

Regards,