

December 28, 1971

To: HW (only)  
Re: Purported UPI story and DPD arrest of Ruby & Oswald  
(Ref.: your letter of 12/12/71 to Mr. Dilman, UPI)

I agree that the DPD 'general offense report' looks like a hoax, for all the reasons you mentioned. Note that anyone who ~~was able to take the~~ was willing to take the trouble could reconstruct a blank DPD form from the Warren Report or Archives material, so the source need not have had access to authentic blank forms. (Although I suppose they would not be hard to get.)

What caught my eye were several things in the UPI story which suggested to me that it is not authentic. That is, there are several specific things which are not characteristic of routine (good) reporting:

(1) Most ~~strikingly~~ strikingly, the claim that Grant was formerly FBI does not appear in the lead - he is identified there as a "Dallas builder." Any cub reporter ~~would~~ would have focused on the FBI link.

(2) 3rd graf: "... records showed no record" is uncharacteristically awkward.

(3) 4th graf: "... got wind of the possibility" is uncharacteristically ~~informal~~ informal.

(4) 5th graf: "formerly of the FBI" is vague. If the reporter had known of his FBI affiliation, he would have specified it (SA, clerk, or whatever.)

(5) ~~the~~ 6th graf: "... along with related events ~~supposed~~ supposed to have occurred in the Louisiana city in mid-1963." Too vague, does not ring true.

And more of the same....

The above may be consistent with an authentic story written by someone without much experience. But I will be surprised if the check of UPI files turns up anything.

~~Another~~ Another ~~argument~~ argument that the story is a hoax: I think if UPI had carried it we would have heard about it, especially because of the FBI link.

If my recollection is right, the typewriter used (and the all-caps style) suggests this may have come from Garrison's office. Didn't he use little squares like the one at the end of this story to indicate his interest? x You might also recognize his handwriting.

I have spent a little time of this because I think it might provide information about the nature and source of the "disinformation" work against Garrison. I would be interested in your opinions. Not knowing the source, my opinions (that it is a rather clumsy attempt to divert JG) are only tentative.

Paul

12/31/71

War Paul (only),

All your reasons for doubting even the UPI story part of that business (your 12/28) are legitimate repertorial standards. It is possible that a greenie wrote the story but I also had such doubts in part because as you suspected, I also suspected that the JG office had retyped the story. However, this could have been because a xerox was unclear. I immediately tried to check with UPI Dallas and I did as soon as I could with DC, and I've had no response.

Other checks: there was an FBI agent named Grant in Dallas then.

Simpler explanation fake: some cop or one with access to real forms did it. His original is a carbon. But Deputy Faulkner said all the numbers are legit, which means that if a fake it had to be by someone with DFD intimate knowledge.

Marks added: by JG, as you suspect.

Typing on Offense Report not with machine used to retype story. Presumably this story also appeared in Dallas, the source of the clip, ostensibly, and MF did not know of it.

Rather than intent to "divert" Garrison, I think it was what could have been expected to succeed, that he use it and have it established as a fake. Knowing him as I do, I'm surprised that he didn't. It was signed as he'd have liked and did, former Dallas policeman.

I think I gave you internal reasons for my doubts. If I didn't, they are many.

If anything eventuates, I'll let you know. I'll check with UPI in person when I am in DC and can.

HW