

TIPPIT, JD

JFK assassination records appeals
J.D. Tippit; personnel record

Harold Weisberg 11/1/79

You have not acted on my appeal, which I believe in part was based on the fact that the murdered Tippit ~~man~~ became a public figure and the fact that the investigation of his murder was part of the Warren Commission's mandate.

In its touted investigation in which it allegedly left no stone unturned the FBI did not get around to taking a look at Tippit for more than six months and then did it at the Commission's request. Then, in a 6/1/64 memo to Belmont, Rosen opened by referring to "interesting details" about Tippit in his personnel file.

This memo (62-109060-3194) summarizes what the FBI withheld ~~elsewhere~~, leading to my appeal.

Some is relevant to what happened to him, for it is unusual that he left his car without having his pistol where he could use it, if he thought he was actually intercepting the "residential assassin, the official story.

Some is relevant to his just ignoring a call to him on the police radio, just before he was killed and just at a time ^{Police} a car was reported outside the Oswald rooming house.

There are other relevant factors I do not go into.

This disclosed memo reveals a summary of "a psychiatric report" on Tippit. It "characterizes Tippit as 'wholly devoid of imaginative facilities.' It indicated his interests and achievements were limited...it was noted that errors of judgement could be expected..." (I note one judgemental error above. Relating to lack of achievement, he ~~had~~ never earned a promotion in his 10 years on the police force.)

His failure to respond to the radio call noted above was not the first time. However often he practised this, he was charged with it three times.

And as for getting himself killed, there was a prior similar occasion when his life was saved only when the pistol at his head didn't fire. And then when he was making an arrest of a wanted criminal.

All pretty provocative. The full record should be disclosed.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Casper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 1, 1964

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
11/22/63
DALLAS, TEXAS
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

PURPOSE:

To advise you of some interesting details included in the Dallas Police Department personnel file of officer J. D. Tippit, who was killed by Lee Harvey Oswald on 11/22/63.

BACKGROUND:

The President's Commission, by letter 5/12/64, requested we conduct a limited background investigation of Tippit and to obtain a copy of his personnel file from the Dallas Police Department. Our background investigation has failed to show any connection between Tippit and Lee Harvey Oswald or Jack Ruby. Tippit was born 9/18/24 in Texas, served in the Paratroopers during World War II, and entered on duty with the Dallas Police Department on 7/28/52.

PERSONAL EVALUATION:

A psychiatric report dated 11/17/52 characterizes Tippit as "wholly devoid of imaginative facilities." It indicated his interests and achievements were limited and that his mental functioning and thinking corresponded with the community at large. His grip on reality was below average and it was noted that errors of judgment could be expected. Generally, Tippit was found to be a family man, friendly, dedicated to his children, profession, and his associations were limited to fellow officers. There was no indication he led a "fast" life.

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan
- 1 - Mr. J. W. Hines

RDR:jh
(10)

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Section 70 (62-109060)

Memorandum Rosen to Belmont
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

INJURIES SUSTAINED:

During Tippit's career as a police officer he received several minor injuries which included a dog bite in 1957 and a laceration from a prisoner in January, 1956. His most serious injury was during April, 1956, when he was stabbed in the abdomen and knee by a mentally deranged person. It was later found that part of the ice pick was embedded in his kneecap which required surgery to remove. Because of this injury he had considerable difficulty with his knee from then on.

COMPLAINTS:

While a police officer, Tippit was charged with failure to respond to three radio dispatches all of a minor nature. He was criticized by a citizen for discourtesy after issuing a traffic summons; however investigation of this charge indicated the citizen was disgruntled and probably lied. Tippit also failed to appear at scheduled court appearances on three occasions which resulted in a one day suspension without pay on his second dereliction.

COMMENDATION:

Tippit was commended for aiding an accident victim, recovering stolen property, and was the recipient of three letters of commendation for courtesy as the result of letters sent to the Dallas Police Department by individuals to whom Tippit had issued traffic tickets. He was the recipient of a "superior award" based primarily on an incident which happened on 9/2/56. Tippit and his partner received a call for a routine investigation at a bar where a white intoxicated male was present. When asked to leave this man attempted to shoot Tippit in the head; however, the gun did not fire. Tippit and his partner drew their service revolvers and killed the individual who was later identified as Leonard Garland "who was wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for an offense he committed in another state."

Bufile 26-221633 does not completely substantiate the above observation, however, it is pointed out that one Leonard Garland was being sought as a suspect in an Interstate Transportation of Stolen Motor Vehicle case in which Los Angeles was office of origin in 1957. A closing report submitted in this matter states our Dallas office advised that Garland was shot and killed in Dallas on 9/2/56, and that Tippit was one of the officers involved.

ACTION:

The Dallas Police Department file and results of investigation requested by the President's Commission has been furnished Commission. This is for your information.

E. H. C. [unclear]
-2- *[Handwritten initials and signatures]*