

you ignore, Rankin stated that if the report of Oswald as an agent were true, people would "think there was a conspiracy" and "nothing the Commission did or anybody could dissipate." [sic]

Before any investigation? Before the Commission was even fully organized?

To former CIA chief, then Commissioner Allen Dulles, the were thought was "terrible."

"Fantastic," the late Commissioner/Congressman Hale Boggs agreed.

"Terrific," was the rejoinder.

Uniquely in this case Hoover and the FBI reached a "conclusion": A lone "Red" assassin and no conspiracy. This was long before its investigation was completed and, as this Commission transcript shows, when they "have not run out all kinds of leads" bearing on conspiracy.

Before the Commission got started, the late Supreme Court Chief Justice/Chairman said Hoover and the FBI "would like to have us fold up and quit."

Boggs saw it: "This closes the case, you see. Don't you see?"

"Yes, I see that," Dulles came back.

This is by no means the only time or place the Commission acknowledged in records it expected to remain forever secret that Hoover had the Commission boxed in from the outset. The fear of Hoover throughout the government and within the Commission is explicit in the January 27 transcript, too.

Following discussion of the FBI's forswearing on any investigation and its atypical reaching of conclusions when that was not the FBI's practice or function and the bit about deciding there had been no conspiracy without investigation, Dulles said, "I think this record should be destroyed." Other records show that it was. Only someone overlooked the stenotypist's tape.

Illegally, as a federal court held, this transcript and others were classified "TOP SECRET." Where is that good conservatism and its sense of outrage over such official misconduct? Or the falsification by the executive agencies to keep these kinds of records suppressed? To keep them suppressed, the government alleged they held the kind of "national security" secrets that could start a war!

Unlike you, who rushed into print equating your prejudice with fact, I have been working on this for more than 11 years. These transcripts had been illegally withheld from me since 1967. Do you believe this kind of information should be withheld from the people in a representative society? Or from lawmakers when it is a sui generis insight into how commissions and other bodies work when they believe they will never be found out?

When /o less an authority than Allen Dulles (in the January 27 session) said CIA perjury is right and proper, the ultimate in patriotic dedication; that CIA people frame each other; that he would withhold information from the Secretary of Defense; and that the kinds of people the FBI and CIA use are "terrible characters," you libel me for bringing this to light in an entirely unpaid, decade-long effort?