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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES
INTERVIEW OF SPECIAL AGENT
ROBERT M. BARRETT,
DECEMBER 17, 1975

I, Special Agent Robert M. Barrett, was interviewed by Committee Staff member Paul Wallach, in Room 608, Carroll Arms, Washington, D.C. The interview began at 2:02 PM and was recorded by Mr. Alfred H. Ward.

At the outset, Mr. Wallach advised that the Committee was attempting to determine whether or not there was any basis for reopening of the case of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. He further stated the Committee was reviewing the activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) before and after the assassination.

Mr. Wallach asked when I arrived in Washington, D.C., and how I received notice to come to Washington, D.C., for this interview. He was told I arrived about 5:45 PM on December 16, 1975, and that on Friday, December 12, 1975, I had received notice of a teletype from FBI Headquarters to my office in Birmingham, Alabama, instructing me to report to Washington, D.C., on December 17, 1975, for this interview.

Mr. Wallach asked if I had conferred with any Bureau officials prior to this interview. I informed him that I had met with Inspector John Hotis of the Legal Counsel Division. Mr. Wallach asked for the contents of this discussion and I advised him that I had asked Mr. Hotis if he knew the reason why I was being interviewed by the Committee, and that Mr. Hotis had stated he did not know the reason or purpose other than it concerned my role in the assassination investigation.

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I told Mr. Wallach that Mr. Hotis had further informed me that I should decline to answer any questions as to sensitive sources, sensitive techniques, on-going investigations, and any information received from a third agency.

Mr. Wallach asked if I had talked to Mr. Paul Daly, and he was informed Mr. Daly was in and out of the office frequently and that I had had very little conversation with him. Mr. Wallach asked how long I had talked with Mr. Hotis, and I told him the above conversation was very brief, that I was originally informed the interview was to take place at 10:00 AM, that this was subsequently changed to 2:00 PM and that I had spent the time in Mr. Hotis' office waiting and occasionally discussing other unrelated matters.

I also told Mr. Wallach that I had been interviewed earlier on December 17, 1975, by Assistant Director Harold N. Bassett, and Deputy Assistant Director J. Allison Conley. Mr. Wallach asked what this interview was about, and I told him I was questioned as to any knowledge I had of Lee Harvey Oswald coming to the FBI Office in Dallas prior to the assassination and leaving a note for Special Agent James Hosty. I told Mr. Wallach what I had previously told Mr. Bassett, that some four or five months after the assassination I was asked by someone in the Dallas Office, whose identity I can't recall, (because what this unrecalled person asked me was a rumor and insignificant) if I had heard the rumor that Oswald had come to the Dallas Office where he asked Nan Fenner, the Receptionist, to see Hosty. I recall there being no mention of any note left by Oswald, nor did Hosty, or anyone else in Dallas ever talk to me about the incident, the note or the contents of the note. Mr. Wallach asked if I had reported to anyone in Dallas at the time the above incident and Mr. Wallach was advised I did not report a rumor and that I treated it as a rumor, in that I promptly forgot about it as I was very busy at the time conducting investigations of other matters having to do with the assassination.

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Mr. Wallach asked if Mr. Hotis had informed me of my right to counsel and I stated this had been done. Mr. Wallach then advised me of my right to counsel and my right to refuse to answer any questions. I advised Mr. Wallach I was aware of my rights.

Mr. Wallach advised me that recorded results of this interview would later be available to me, in Washington, D.C. I asked if I would be furnished a copy and if a copy would be furnished the Bureau. I was informed that the Bureau would not be furnished a copy nor would anyone, other than myself, from the Bureau, have access to this report. I was also told that I would be advised by mail when I could have access to the report. Mr. Wallach did not say if I would be furnished a copy. He also said I could request the presence of a Senator during the interview, which request I did not make.

Mr. Wallach then asked about my Bureau career and assignments prior to November 22, 1963. He was advised of my assignments in Phoenix from 1952 to 1954, in Amarillo, Texas, from 1954 to 1956, and in Dallas from 1956 to 1966. Mr. Wallach inquired as to what kind of investigative work I was doing as of November 21, 1963, and I told him that primarily I was assigned to investigations having to do with organized crime, gambling, and criminal intelligence, and occasionally some involved civil rights cases, and some extortion cases. Mr. Wallach asked how long I had been doing such work and who else in the Dallas Office was either working with me or doing similar work. I told him I had been working these type cases since November, 1957, and that I was assisted by SA Ivan D. Lee from about 1960, or so, until the assassination, at which time Lee and I were both assigned to the assassination investigation, primarily, for about a year.

Mr. Wallach then asked me to define a "hip pocket informant" and after I gave him my definition, he asked if I had any in Dallas. I defined a "hip pocket informant" as a source of information whose identity was never made known nor was there ever any record made that such a person was being used as an informant. I told Mr. Wallach I have never employed "hip pocket informants" in Dallas or elsewhere.

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Mr. Wallach asked if I knew of, or had heard of "Carlos" Trafficante of Tampa, and Carlos Marcello of New Orleans, Louisiana. I said that in investigations of organized crime matters, I had become acquainted with these names, but I believed the correct name was Santos Trafficante, to which Mr. Wallach agreed. Mr. Wallach asked if I knew of a man named McWillie (Phonetic) and I said I could not recall ever having heard of this name.

Mr. Wallach asked if I knew of Jack Ruby. I said I had known Ruby as the owner or operator of two Dallas night clubs, that were frequented by pimps, prostitutes and persons involved in criminal activities. I was asked if I had ever talked to Ruby and I said I had on maybe two occasions prior to November 21, 1963, but I could not recall the contents of these conversations, other than it most likely had to do with persons who frequented Ruby's night clubs.

Mr. Wallach asked if I was aware of a connection of Ruby with Trafficante, with Marcello, and with McWillie (Phonetic). I said I was not aware of any connection by Ruby with any of these persons and repeated that I did not recall the name McWillie.

Mr. Wallach asked if I was acquainted with the term "PCI" - "potential criminal informant", if I knew Jack Ruby was a PCI of the Dallas Office, and if I knew the identity of the FBI Agent in Dallas, a "red headed fellow" who had had Ruby assigned to him, and which Agent was later disciplined or transferred. I had just begun to answer Mr. Wallach, when U. S. Senator Richard D. Schweicker, of Pennsylvania, entered the room at 2:33 PM and thereafter took part jointly in the interrogation of me with Mr. Wallach, after introducing himself. Mr. Wallach briefly reviewed with Senator Schweicker what had previously transpired in the interview. Senator Schweicker asked if I knew Ruby was a PCI and if I was not aware of Ruby's connections with organized crime.

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I stated that my investigation of organized crime and criminal intelligence matters in Dallas were primarily concerned with the activities of Joseph Francis Civello and his associates and the activities of a roving band of criminals, not connected with Civello, who used Dallas as a base for their activities. I stated that in these investigations neither I nor SA Lee had become aware of any involvement by Ruby in organized crime matters or any association with the persons who were the subjects of our investigations.

At this point, 2:37 PM, Senator Schweicker asked Mr. Wallach if I had been sworn, and when told that I had not, Senator Schweicker placed me under oath, making reference to all the answers I had given prior to being sworn, as well as those I would give after being sworn.

I pointed out that if Ruby had been involved in organized crime matters, such as association with Trafficante or Marcelllo, and this had become known to the FBI, I was sure I, as an Agent assigned to organized crime investigations in Dallas where Ruby resided, would have been so advised and that this was not the case.

In answer to the questions about Ruby being a PCI, I stated I had heard something after November 24, 1963, that an Agent in Dallas had at one time opened a PCI case on Ruby, but I did not know any details such as when this occurred, the name of the Agent, and I was not aware that this Agent, whoever he was, had been disciplined because of any dealings with Ruby or for having Ruby as a PCI.

Senator Schweicker then asked if when a person is designated a PCI, the Agent makes such a recommendation to his superior and that Ruby had been made a PCI because of his connections with organized crime. I explained that a person can be designated a PCI by the Agent because of his association with the criminal element, his residence, his employment, or for any of a number of reasons, and that this person may never furnish any pertinent or useful information or be of any value. Senator Schweicker then asked if PCIs were not paid and I said they were only paid when they furnished pertinent or good useful information only on a C.O.D. basis. I was asked if Ruby had ever been paid and I said I had no knowledge of any such payment.

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I was asked if I had knowledge of any "Cuban ties with Ruby", of any gun running to Cuba by Ruby, and of any connections between Ruby and a man named "McCuen" (Phonetic). I said I had no such knowledge and was then asked if I had ever heard of McCuen. I said I believed he was the person who recently appeared on CBS Television and this was my only knowledge of him. I was then asked if I had any knowledge of the Cuban community in Dallas and I said I had none whatsoever. I was asked if I had any informants or had conducted any investigation in the Dallas Cuban community, to which I answered in the negative.

Senator Schweicker made reference to an FD-302 written by me in which I reported looking at a photograph taken by a man named Rocco of Los Angeles and which photo was taken prior to November 22, 1963, in Ruby's Carosel Club, in Dallas. It had been alleged that an individual appearing in the photo was Oswald. In my FD-302 I had stated that based on my having participated in the arrest of Oswald on November 22, 1963, in my judgement, the individual in the photo was not Oswald. The Senator asked if I recalled this and I stated I did not recall looking at the photo, but if there was an FD-302 containing such a report, then that had occurred as reported in the FD-302. The Senator asked if I denied having written this FD-302 and I said I was not denying I wrote it, but that I could not recall it, at which time the Senator then made a telephone call and subsequently a Xeroxed copy of a page from one of the volumes of the Warren Commission Report was delivered to Senator Schweicker in Room 608. The Senator exhibited this copy which was of an FD-302 bearing my name, a Dallas file number in the "44" classification, and showing it was written at Dallas. I noted the initials of the stenographer were "LAC" and these were in capital letters. I pointed out that this was not to my knowledge the usual practice of Bureau Stenographers. I stated I still did not recall writing the FD-302 nor the information reported about the photo. I again said that if there was such an FD-302, then it contained information that I had reported and had knowledge of at the time, but cannot recall now, twelve years

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later. I said I could not verify the copy of the FD-302 shown to me by Senator Schweicker as having been written by me, and could only make such verification if I could observe the original which would bear my written initials.

Mr. Wallach asked if anyone else would have prepared an FD-302 under my name and I said I never know of such a case, and that such was most unlikely as it was against Bureau regulations and instructions.

At this point in the interview, Senator Schweicker and Mr. Wallach asked a series of questions as to my activities as best I could recall them on November 22, 1963. One of these questions was whether or not there had been a conference held in the Dallas FBI Office on the morning of November 22, 1963, in which the visit of President Kennedy to Dallas scheduled for later that day, was discussed. I stated that I did not recall such a conference, that such a conference was possible, but as best I could recall I had been scheduled to conduct a police school in the Richardson, Texas, Police Department the morning of November 22, 1963, and further, that I had scheduled an interview the afternoon of November 22, 1963, at 1:00 PM with an individual whose name I could not recall at this time. I stated I had made arrangements with another Agent to meet me to assist in this interview and this suggested to me at this time that I had scheduled an interview with either a subject of an investigation or a female or of a person where it was necessary to require the presence of another Agent during the interview.

I recalled for Mr. Wallach and Senator Schweicker that upon completion of the police school, I had had lunch in Richardson and was proceeding back to Dallas on the Expressway when I received a radio message from the FBI Office in Dallas to stand by as there had been some shots fired in Dealey Plaza. I stated I then proceeded to the Dealey Plaza and went to the area near the front door of the Texas School Book Depository where I recall seeing some police officers I recognized, one of whom I recall now was Detective Jackie

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Bryan. I recall Bryan, or some officer, asking if I had a flashlight as they needed to search the basement of the Texas School Book Depository and they had also asked if I would assist in this search, which I did.

At this point, I was asked if I had observed that the Texas School Book Depository building had been secured by police officers. I answered that I could not recall if this had been done or not, but that I had seen a large number of police officers in the area, many in uniform. I was asked if I recalled seeing any high ranking officers. I stated I could not recall having seen any high ranking police officers I could recall, but that it was possible. I pointed out to Mr. Wallach and Senator Schweicker that my activities on November 22, 1963 in connection with what I had seen and observed after the search of the basement, had been recorded by me on an FD-302 on November 22, 1963. I advised that if I had this FD-302 before me I could answer their questions with more certainty. Mr. Wallach explained that a request for this FD-302 had been made to the Bureau, that it and others had not been received as yet, but that a staff member had had access to this FD-302 prior to my interview and had made some notes which were being used in this interview. I related that on the front steps of the Texas School Book Depository I had met Sheriff J. E. "Bill" Decker and while with Sheriff Decker, heard an unknown individual advise the Sheriff that the President had been given the last rites of the Catholic Church. At this point Sheriff Decker and I both heard a radio dispatch given over a Dallas Police Department squad car, parked nearby, to the effect that a police officer had been shot in the Oak Cliff area. I advised I could not recall the location of this shooting at this time but I did note that I had incorporated it in my FD-302 prepared on November 22, 1963. I stated that in 1963 there was a very close working relationship between the FBI and Sheriff Decker and the FBI and the Dallas Police Department and that Sheriff Decker was one of the most respected persons in Dallas. I stated Sheriff Decker had suggested that I go to the Oak Cliff area and find out the details concerning the shooting of the police officer and, further, I recall that Sheriff Decker had stated he did not know if that shooting had anything to do with the shooting of the President or not, but that I should find out the details if possible.

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I was then asked by Mr. Wallach if I had called my office and reported what had transpired to that point. I stated I did not recall having called or radioed the FBI Office and explaining that I was at that point an observer of the events taking place and would report these events later at a more opportune time. I was asked if I had observed any other Agents in the area of the school book depository prior to leaving for the Oak Cliff area. I stated I did not recall at this time having seen any other Agent, but did recall that I had later seen a newspaper photograph wherein one of the persons in the photo was recognized by me as SA C. Ray Hall and this indicated that there were other Agents, at least one, in the area at about that time.

I stated that I proceeded to the Oak Cliff area to the scene where a police officer named Tippitt had been shot and that I arrived at the scene shortly after his body had been removed. I stated I observed the officers interviewing a woman I believed was named Markham, who had witnessed the shooting. I stated that during this time I heard another radio broadcast over a nearby police department squad car to the effect that a suspicious looking person had just entered the Texas Theater about 10 or 12 blocks from the scene of the shooting of the officer. I related that I proceeded directly to this theater and entered same either just before or just after Captain W. R. Westbrook of the police department entered the theater. I explained to Senator Schweicker and Mr. Wallach my location in the lobby of the theater where Captain Westbrook and I were talking to an assistant manager requesting that he find and turn on the house lights in the theater. I was asked how I knew the suspect was in the theater at that time and I stated that I now recall something about an individual from a nearby shoe store telling some officers that the suspect had been observed by this person running into the theater. I was asked if the lights were "up" (on) in the seating area of the theater when Oswald was arrested. I said I recalled the lights were not on, and it was dark except for the lights from the screen.

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Mr. Wallach stated that in my FD-302 I had stated that I had heard Police Officer M. N. McDonald making a statement from the inside of the darkened portion of the theater, "Here he is," and then observed Officer McDonald lunge toward an individual later identified as Lee Harvey Oswald and that these two individuals had started to scuffle. Mr. Wallach then read from a Warren Commission Report a transcript of the testimony of Officer McDonald concerning his location and arrest of Oswald in the theater and noted that (1) Officer McDonald did not state that he had ever said, "Here he is," and (2) Officer McDonald did not state that he had ever lunged into any row of seats to grasp Oswald, and (3) Officer McDonald said the lights were "up" (on) in the seating area of the theater. I advised Senator Schweicker and Mr. Wallach that if my FD-302 written on November 22, 1963 of events that I had observed and taken part in on that day in connection with the location and arrest of Oswald reported that I had heard McDonald state, "Here he is," and saw him lunge toward Oswald, that this was my best recollection, at the time of the events I had seen and observed that day; further, that I recalled now that the lights were not "up" (on) and that I could not account for any statements made or not made by Officer McDonald.

Mr. Wallach then spent several minutes questioning me about details as to where I was standing, what I heard, how long a period of time was involved and what I had seen. I again pointed out to him and Senator Schweicker that the events of November 22, 1963, had been reported as best I could recall them in an FD-302 dictated by me later on November 22, 1963. Mr. Wallach asked me if I recall anything that Oswald had said at the time of his arrest and I stated that I believe now that he said something to the effect, "Kill all the sons of bitches." Mr. Wallach said that was a direct quote from my FD-302 and I remarked that this was the type of thing somebody would remember for a long period of time. I said I recalled Oswald saying something about his civil rights being violated, that I also recalled that Oswald was seized by two or three officers on his left and two or three officers on his right and placed under control and, further, that Captain Westbrook had ordered that Oswald be immediately removed from the theater. I recalled observing the officers on one side going in the opposite direction from the officers on the other side of Oswald for just a brief moment.

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I was shown a photograph in one of the Warren Commission volumes supposedly taken of Oswald as he was being removed from the theater to a police car by a uniformed officer and a person in plain clothes. Senator Schweicker asked if I could identify the person in plain clothes and I stated I could not at this time but that he undoubtedly was a police department detective as I did not believe the uniformed officers present would allow anyone but a recognized detective and fellow officer to assist in the removal of Oswald from the theater.

I was asked what I did after Oswald had been removed from the theater and I stated that I believe I radioed my office and advised that the individual sought for the shooting of the police officer had been apprehended and was advised by my office, via radio, that President Kennedy was dead. I proceeded to the Dallas Police Department where I went to the office of Captain Westbrook to offer what assistance I could in connection with the preparation of the arrest report concerning Oswald. I said that I did this because Oswald had made some statements about his civil rights being violated, and I wanted the report to show that an FBI Agent had been present during the arrest and would be in a position to furnish details concerning the arrest and these allegations.

Mr. Wallach asked when I became aware that Oswald was the person being sought in connection with the shooting of President Kennedy and, further, when I became aware of the identity of Oswald. I advised I could not recall when I first learned of the name of the individual arrested in the theater but that it was sometime that afternoon. I recall that when I got to the police department someone, identity unrecalled at this time, had told me that as the police car bringing Oswald and the officers from Oak Cliff was arriving at the police department, an all-points bulletin (APB) for Oswald was being made by the police department radio dispatcher. I recalled the officer who was telling me this saying that it was probably the shortest "APB" on record as the officers in the car immediately advised the radio dispatcher that the person being sought, Oswald, was in custody.

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I was asked if I had any opportunity to see Oswald in the police department at that time or any other subsequent time and I stated to the best of my knowledge Oswald had been taken to the office of Captain "Will" Fritz, that I never did go to Captain Fritz's office at any time on November 22, 23, or 24, 1963, and that I had never personally observed Oswald subsequent to his arrest in the theater in Oak Cliff.

At this point in the interrogation, Mr. Wallach asked me if I knew that disciplinary action by the Bureau had been taken against SA (James) Hosty. I advised them that I was aware of this through my association with Hosty in Dallas. I was then asked if I knew that some Assistant Directors of the FBI had been disciplined because of their handling of certain matters in the assassination investigation. I stated I was not aware of this and had no knowledge of any such disciplinary action.

Mr. Wallach then asked me if I had attended a "going away" party held, not in the Dallas Office, for Hosty by his friends in Dallas. I stated I did not recall any such party and further felt that if there had been such a party I would have been invited and would have attended because Hosty and I were in the same car pool, we attended the same church, we belonged to the same clubs, and I had coached his son on the school football team, and further, that many of Hosty's friends were also my friends.

I was asked if I recalled a conference being held by SAC J. Gordon Shanklin on the early morning of November 23, 1963, in which Agents of the Dallas Office were given instructions on investigation to be conducted that day. I stated that I recalled reporting to work on Saturday, November 23, at about 6:00 AM after having worked to about 3:00 AM that same morning from the Friday before, and I did not recall any such conference held by Mr. Shanklin.

I was asked if there had not been a conference on the morning of November 24, 1963, in which Mr. Shanklin instructed the Dallas Agents not to go near the area at the city jail where Oswald was being removed that day and I

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stated I did recall these instructions, and further, I had been instructed, along with SA Ivan D. Lee, to go to KRLD-TV Station to obtain any pertinent photographs that that station might have and further, that while there I had observed, on closed circuit television, the Oswald shooting in the basement of the police department. I was asked if I had any knowledge of a telephone call received by the FBI during the night of November 23-24, 1963, containing a threat against Oswald. I said that to the best of my knowledge, I did recall something to the effect that SA Hilton Newson had been on duty during the early morning hours of November 24 at the Dallas FBI Office and had received such a call. I could not recall at this time who was the source of this information nor did I recall any details as to the contents of the call.

Mr. Wallach then asked if there had not been some occasions when Agents of the Dallas Office had been discussing the assassination and discussing whether or not it was their opinions that it was the act of one man acting alone or was a conspiracy. I stated I was sure that there had been such discussions on an informal basis but that I could not recall any details or anything as to when such discussions were held or who was present and, further, that I was sure that everyone connected with the investigation would have made some personal conclusions.

At this point, Mr. Wallach asked if it was not true that Mr. Shanklin or some other Bureau official had given explicit directions that the investigation was to establish that Oswald acted alone in connection with the assassination. Before I could answer this question, Mr. Wallach stated that such information had been received from other FBI Agents. I stated that this was not so, that I did not believe any other Agents had made such statements, and further, that we had, to the contrary, been given instructions to conduct our investigation in an effort to establish all the facts to identify all persons involved.

At this point, which was about 4:23 PM, Senator Schweicker left the room and did not take any further part in the interrogation.

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Mr. Wallach had said something concerning the personal opinions of Agents as to a conspiracy and I stated I desired at that time to express my personal opinion that it was not a conspiracy. I stated that in my opinion, if Oswald had been part of a conspiracy which would have required a great amount of detailed planning and preparation, then one of the basic elements of such a plan had been completely omitted or disregarded in that after the shots were fired and the President killed, there was no provision made for Oswald's escape or for any immediate disposition of Oswald. Mr. Wallach did not make any comment. Mr. Wallach then asked if I had any knowledge that Oswald had been in contact with a KGB Agent prior to the assassination and I said I had not. Mr. Wallach asked if I was aware that the Bureau had such information, and if I had known this (Oswald's alleged prior contact with a KGB Agent) if such would have changed my investigation. I answered that I had no knowledge the Bureau knew of the alleged contact, if any, and that if I had known this at the time it would have had an effect on our investigation, as every effort would have been directed toward determining the purpose and contents of such contacts. He asked if I had had knowledge that Oswald had been in contact with a KGB Agent from "Department 13" and then asked if I was aware of what "Department 13" consisted of. I stated that I had absolutely no such knowledge. Mr. Wallach explained that "Department 13" of the KGB had to do with assassination and espionage and I replied that I had no such information.

Mr. Wallach asked if I had any knowledge of a wire-tap placed after the assassination on the telephone of Marina Oswald. I respectfully advised Mr. Wallach that I believed he was asking questions about a sensitive technique and that I would decline to answer such questions without approval and authority by the Bureau. At this point, Mr. Wallach placed a telephone call to Bureau Supervisor William Cregar and advised him of my declination. Upon hanging up, Mr. Wallach stated that Mr. Cregar had requested that I report to Mr. Cregar's office upon completion of the interview and that in the meantime Mr. Cregar would attempt to ascertain if it were permissible for me to answer this question.

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Mr. Wallach asked if I could recall receiving instructions to contact all my sources and informants subsequent to the assassination for any knowledge that might be possessed by them concerning the assassination and those involved. I stated I could not recall specifically having received such instructions, but that in my opinion such instructions were issued as this is a common Bureau investigative procedure whenever there is a major investigation and that this was undoubtedly one of the more major investigations ever conducted by the FBI. I was asked if any of these sources had furnished any pertinent information concerning the assassination and I stated I could not recall ever receiving any positive information about the matter from any established sources and informants. I further stated that any informants who were very good informants would not have had to have been contacted, but would have come forward with any pertinent information.

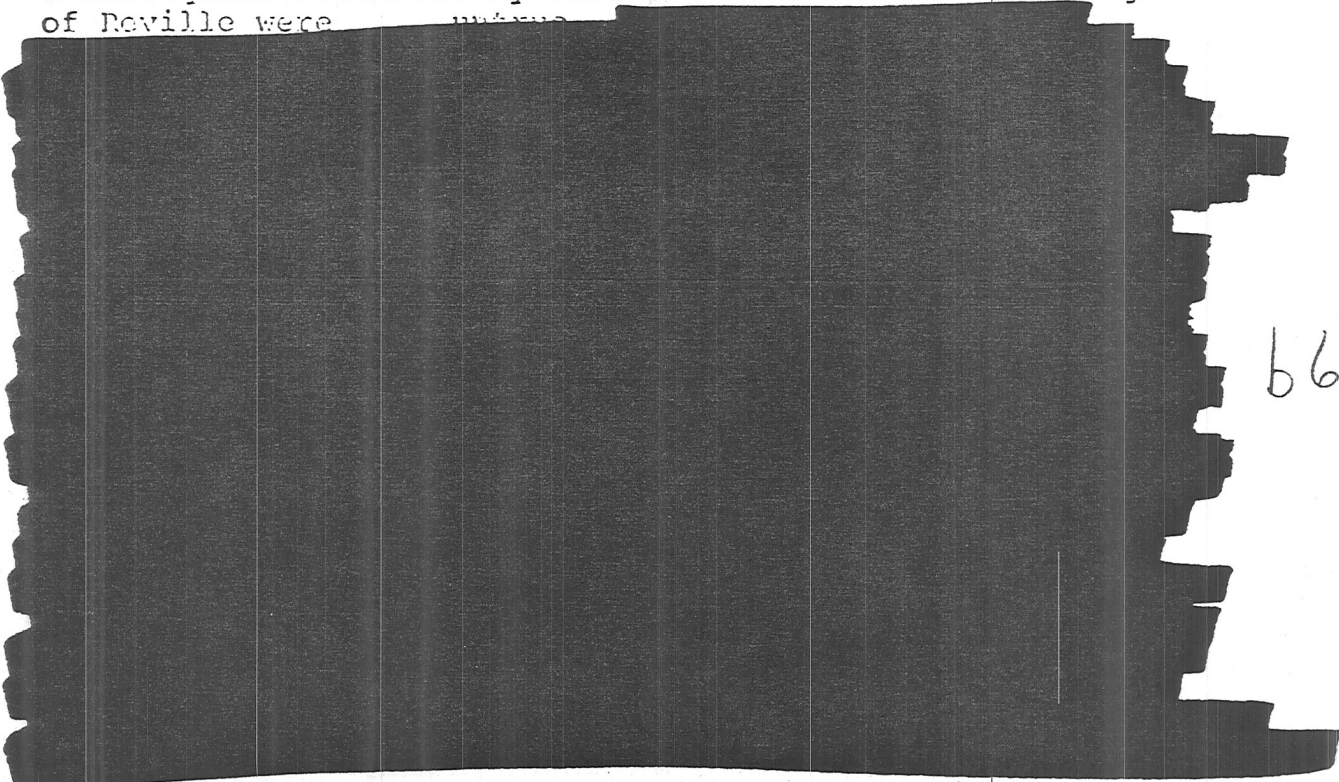
Mr. Wallach then asked if I had any knowledge of any telephone calls between Mr. Shanklin and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover. I stated I had no direct knowledge of any such calls. I was asked if I ever observed Mr. Shanklin on the telephone during the period immediately subsequent to the assassination and I stated to the best of my knowledge Mr. Shanklin was on the telephone a great deal of the time, but that I had no knowledge as to whom he was talking, or the contents of his conversations. I was asked if I had ever seen Mr. Shanklin crying. I stated I recalled one incident where I had gone into his office and had observed tears in Mr. Shanklin's eyes. I did not know what had caused this and did not discuss the reason for this with Mr. Shanklin nor did he volunteer any information. I was asked if I knew Mr. Shanklin was crying because he had been severely reprimanded (telephonically) by Mr. Hoover, to which I answered in the negative.

I was asked if I had ever taken part in or observed, or had knowledge of any conversations between Mr. Shanklin and SA Hosty. I answered that I had never taken part in any such conversations to the best of my knowledge and had no knowledge about such conversations. I stated

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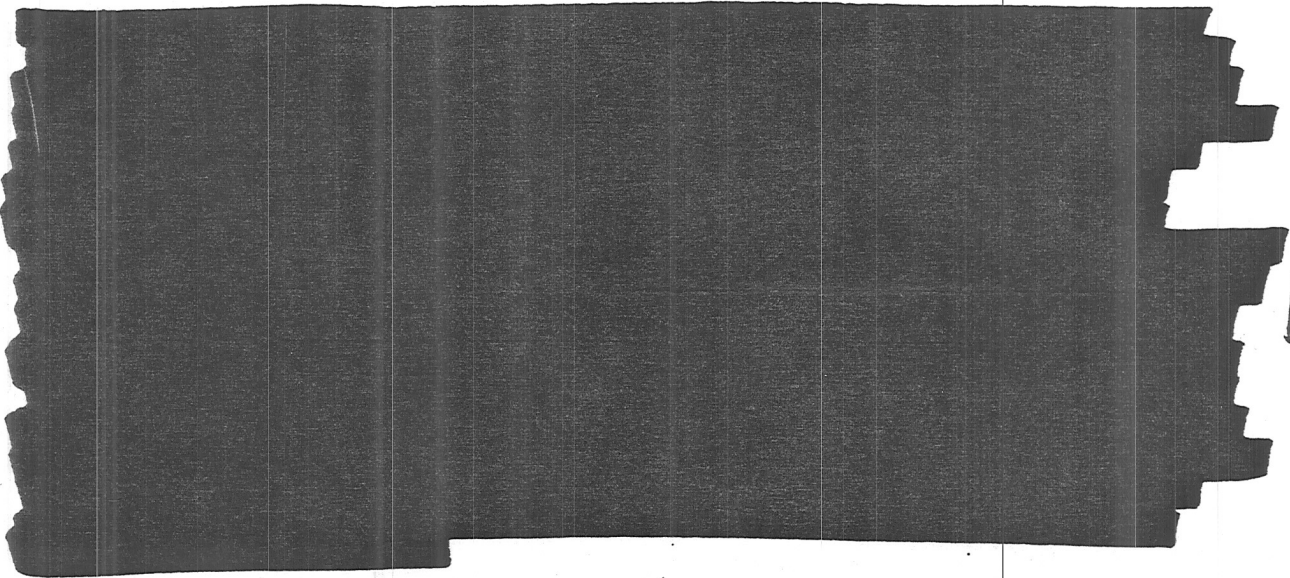
Mr. Hosty never discussed with me any of our official activities as a Bureau Agent.

Mr. Wallach then asked me if I had knowledge of a disagreement between Agent Hosty and Lt. Jack Reville of the Dallas Police Department, if this disagreement concerned statements made by Reville and Hosty concerning Oswald's foreign relationship, contacts or something to that effect. I stated I had knowledge of a disagreement which later became a matter of public knowledge through the press between Reville and Hosty as to certain statements alleged by Reville to have been made by Hosty concerning Oswald which statements were made in the basement of the Dallas Police Department the afternoon of November 22, 1963, shortly after the identification of and arrest of Oswald. I stated that to the best of my knowledge, I recalled Hosty denying having made such statements and Reville being quoted in the press as stating that Hosty was lying and a subsequent statement by Director Hoover that the allegations of Reville were



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INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES
INTERVIEW OF SPECIAL AGENT
ROBERT M. BARRETT
DECEMBER 17, 1975



At 4:57 PM, Mr. Wallach stated he had no further questions. He requested that I, if possible, contact him by telephone in connection with the question about the wiretap on Marina Oswald.

After conferring with Bureau Supervisor William Cregar, I was instructed that it would be permissible for me to advise, telephonically, Mr. Wallach that I had knowledge of a wiretap on the residence of Marina Oswald subsequent to the assassination, but that I had not taken any active part in this wiretap and accompanying investigation. At 5:18 PM, after Mr. Cregar and Mr. Wallach had a discussion telephonically, I furnished the above information concerning the wiretap to Mr. Wallach. Mr. Wallach stated he had surmised that that would be my answer and, further, that it was not necessary therefore, for me to return to his office for any further questioning and that I was excused.

It is to be noted the interview was recorded in the following manner by Mr. Ward:

Mr. Ward employed a mask into which he repeated everything he heard spoken by Mr. Wallach, Senator Schweicker and myself. I did not observe any microphones being utilized for this recording. Mr. Ward was being recorded on cassettes.