

FBI

2 Dec 1963

**Merry-Go-Round**

12/2/63

**The Secret Service,  
FBI and Dallas Police**



**Drew Pearson**

**T**HERE ARE three agencies of Government which are sacrosanct as far as congressional investigation or criticism is concerned—the FBI, the Secret Service, and Central Intelligence. In the interest of protecting the life of the President, however, it is my belief that a rigorous investigation should be undertaken regarding the first two.

Here are some facts which should be investigated:

**THE SECRET SERVICE**—Six Secret Service men charged with protecting the President were in the Fort Worth Press Club the early morning of Friday, November 22, some of them remaining until nearly 3 a. m. This was the same day President Kennedy was assassinated. They were drinking. One of them was reported to have been inebriated. When they departed, three were reported en route to an all-night beatnik rendezvous, "The Cellar."

Obviously men who have been drinking until nearly 3 a. m. are in no condition to be trigger-alert or in the best physical shape to protect anyone.

It has been stated that it was impossible for the Secret Service to check the occupancy of every building along the route. While this is true, it is also true that warehouse type buildings, such as that in which the assassin hid, should be searched, and the extra time spent by Secret Service men at the Fort Worth Press Club could have been spent in so doing.

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**T**HE FBI—In Dallas, the police stated that the FBI had interviewed Lee

Oswald but had not informed them about the interview. In Washington, the FBI denied that it had interrogated Oswald recently.

Regardless of whether he was interviewed recently or a long time ago, it is the job of the protective agencies of Government to check on every suspect in any city which the President visits and make sure where he is at the time of the visit.

A man who had been head of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, who had professed Marxism, and whose record showed a mixed-up, unsteady emotionalism, should have been kept under careful watch on the day the President entered his city—one of the most lawless and intolerant cities in the United States.

The Secret Service keeps a file of people who have written threatening letters to the President or who are otherwise suspect. If Oswald was not on their list, the FBI should have communicated with the Secret Service after they interviewed him.

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**T**HE DALLAS POLICE—Newsmen who were on the scene in the basement of the Dallas Police Station when the alleged assassin, Lee Oswald, was shot informed me that it is inconceivable the police did not know Jack Ruby was inside.

Most newsmen had to show their credentials to two police guards to enter the basement. It was more difficult to get in than into the White House. Yet a striptease night club operator with a police record of arrests for assault and for carrying concealed weapons was let inside.

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