

February 7, 1995

To: Files 4.16.2, 4.16.5

From: Phil Golrick

Re: FBI Oversight Hearings before the House Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, Committee on the Judiciary, Part 3 (1975)

I have read the above-referenced hearings and have noted the following by way of general background and particular leads:

Adams testimony: Inspection by Assistant Director for Inspections Harold Bassett, including nearly 80 interviews, started in July 1975, regarding destruction of note from LHO to Hosty. Results referred to DOJ, which concluded that no criminal prosecution was appropriate "at this time."

Adams testimony: Starting in March 1968, "extensive inquiry" into William Walter's allegation that the New Orleans field office received a teletype on November 17, 1963, warning of assassination plot against JFK. DOJ advised of results. Then, in 1975, Mitchell purportedly claimed he had copy of teletype. DOJ offered him immunity from prosecution, but Mitchell did not produce document. At this point, HQ ordered all 59 field offices to search their records for such a teletype. None was found. At some point (apparently 1975), the Dallas Times Herald had Mitchell under polygraph examination, which yielded "indications of deception" but ultimately "inconclusive" results.

Statement of Mr. Dodd, pp. 18-19: "According to a transcript of the January 22, 1964, meeting of the Warren Commission, Lee Rankin,

General Counsel, reported that he had just received a call from Texas Attorney General Waggoner Carr reporting that 'Oswald was acting as an FBI undercover agent.' This report was also corroborated by the district attorney, Henry Wade. Rankin also reported that Carr told him that Oswald's badge number was 179 and that Oswald had been paid \$200 a month salary for his role as an FBI informant."

Former Special Agent Joseph L. Schott of the Dallas field office wrote a book about his experiences entitled No Left Turns. Apparently published in early 1970s.

Inspector James R. Malley from HQ came to Dallas on Sunday (after Oswald was killed) to help Shanklin oversee the assassination investigation. He stayed for about nine days. Malley "was the No. 1 man in the Investigative Division under Mr. Alex Rosen, who was Assistant Director." (Shanklin testimony, p. 66.) Shanklin also testified: "Mr. Al Belmont, who -- I think his title was Assistant to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation. He had general, overall supervision of all investigative matters." (Shanklin testimony, p. 68.) William Sullivan "was the Assistant Director in charge of the Domestic Intelligence Division in which the Oswald security-type investigation was handled." (Id., p. 79.)

Shanklin says that, in 1963, there were about 70 agents in the Dallas field office, with four in a supervisory role: the SAC, the assistant SAC, the general/criminal supervisory agent, and the security supervisory agent [apparently Kenneth Howe]. 30 or 35 of the 70 were distributed among approx. 10 resident agencies.

Shanklin on record-keeping: "Now, in connection with the assassination investigation, after the assassination, I did have special indices,

I would index each serial and who was interviewed in it." P. 94. But this was not the ordinary practice.

Hosty claims that the answers to Inspector Gale's questions attributed to him in a memo dated on or about December 8, 1963, and placed in his personnel file are different than the answers he actually gave to Shanklin, and that these changes were made without his knowledge or consent. Hosty complained about this in a letter to to Director Kelley, dated October 24, 1973, the text of which is set out at p. 171.

Hosty says that, in 1963-64, Nicholas P. Callahan was the Assistant Director of Administration, which included personnel matters. (In 1975, Callahan was Associate Director.) In 1963-64, James B. Adams was the personnel officer under Callahan. (In 1975, Adams was Deputy Associate Director.)

Hosty (p. 161): On November 22, the LHO file was in the clerk's office because FBI Dallas had just received the WMFO communication, dated November 19, 1963, regarding LHO's recent letter to Soviet embassy.

Howe's testimony (p. 183): "chief inspector Gale, who was at that time chief inspector in Washington, requested a complete copy of the Oswald file, up to and including November 22, 1963. We made an exact copy of every serial in that file. We duplicated each serial and transmitted -- I am sure the copy -- it could have been either the copy or the original, and we kept the copies. I don't know. But in any event, the complete file in that reference went to Washington. It was reviewed there, and on the basis of that, there was a list of questions, a number of questions, . . ."

P. 209, Appendix: "Certain of the responses by the FBI were treated by the Subcommittee as executive session material because of personal privacy considerations and not included in this appendix. Those materials are: question 8(a) as to names of individuals interviewed regarding the destruction of the Oswald note and 8(c) as to names of all individuals interviewed regarding the alleged telex to the New Orleans FBI office."

P. 239 of Appendix: reprint of list, prepared for the Warren Commission, of 69 pre-assassination documents in HQ LHO file. Last item is: "An airtel from the Washington Field Office to this Bureau dated November 19, 1963, reporting that an informant advised on November 18, 1963, that Lee Harvey Oswald had been in contact with the Soviet Embassy, Mexico City, Mexico." This is the one item out of the 69 that I have not been able to locate in the FBI HQ LHO file.

