

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date Dec. 12, 1963

Mayor EARLE CABELL was interviewed at his office in the Municipal Building, Dallas, at which time the identities of the interviewing agents were made known to Mayor CABELL. Mayor CABELL was advised that he no doubt was aware of the investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with the shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Mayor CABELL advised that he was aware of this investigation. He was aware that he did not have to make any statement and volunteered that he was most anxious to furnish any information in his possession that would be of assistance in this investigation. He understood that any information he furnished could possibly be used against him in court and was aware of his rights to an attorney. He then furnished the following information in response to inquiry:

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 Cabell
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Mayor CABELL advised that from the time of the assassination to the time of this interview there was only one occasion when he took any form of administrative action that might in any way be conceivably related to either the OSWALD or the RUBY case. He explained that this occurred either on Saturday or Sunday morning, November 23 or 24, 1963, after the assassination, at which time he received an inquiry from a Mr. LANCASTER SMITH, a local attorney representing a Catholic men's group in Dallas, relative to the advisability of proceeding with a torchlight procession which that group planned for Sunday, November 24, 1963. According to Mayor CABELL, this procession was to go by the site of the assassination and also was to pass in front of the County Jail.

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Mayor CABELL very definitely recalls on this occasion that he called Chief JESSE E. CURRY concerning this inquiry from Mr. SMITH, and he also was concerned about this procession but, in effect, had no valid reason to refuse the permit. Mayor CABELL explained that since the procession was to be in the area where OSWALD was incarcerated, that a condition conducive to rowdiness might develop, and he felt that it would be inadvisable to approve of this planned procession. He stated for this reason he

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on 12/12/63 at Dallas, Texas File # DL 44-1639
 by Special Agent s WARREN C. de BRUEYS & GEORGE W. H. CARLSON/csh Date dictated 12/12/63

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told Chief CURRY that it should not be approved, and that he would take the full responsibility as the party who was responsible for the cancellation of the permit for the aforementioned procession.

Mayor CABELL, of course, also categorically stated he at no time had given any orders to Chief CURRY to remove OSWALD from the City Jail and transport him to the County Jail.

At this point, he emphasized that his office is a policy office and not an administrative office, that the City Manager appoints the Chief of Police and that he, CABELL, has no direct contact with department heads. He pointed out that the only reason he contacted Chief CURRY directly in connection with the above parade permit was because City Manager ELGIN CRULL was out of town or not available.

According to Mayor CABELL, he was not in the City Hall from the time of President KENNEDY's assassination until the council meeting, which took place on the morning of Tuesday, November 26, 1963. He related that he was working during that period of time from his home.

As concerns any possible information that he may have given the press, he categorically stated he does not recall that he had at any time given any information to newsmen or persons representing a news media relative to OSWALD's removal from the City Jail to the County Jail. In fact, he believes the only information he gave to the press was that which he gave on Sunday morning, November 24, 1963, relative to his planned travel to Washington, D. C.

On the subject matter of the press, Mayor CABELL volunteered that he had learned from the City Manager that the press had put a great deal of pressure on Chief CURRY relative to the removal of OSWALD from the City Jail to the County Jail. Some of this pressure concerned statements from the press to Chief CURRY that the press would have to stay up all night in order to be assured that they would not miss the removal of OSWALD as stated. Mayor CABELL states that according to information he received from the City Manager,

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Chief CURRY was alleged to have retorted that if they (the press) were back by 10 (am) that "they would be safe." Mayor CABELL stated specifically he received this information from City Manager CRULL after the shooting of OSWALD.

Mayor CABELL also volunteered that he had heard through the City Manager that Chief CURRY wanted to do everything possible to avoid even the impression as well as possible allegations that OSWALD's civil rights were being violated by denial of such things as the freedom of the press and the like. He mentioned in this regard that even the president of the Dallas County Bar was allowed to visit OSWALD in the jail.

As concerns any other conversation that may have transpired between Mayor CABELL and Chief CURRY, it was elicited from Mayor CABELL that Mayor CABELL spoke to Chief CURRY Sunday morning, November 24, 1963, by telephone in connection with the Mayor's planned flight to Washington, D. C. Mayor CABELL remarked that Chief CURRY had called him at his home by telephone and had advised him that a call had been received by direct dialing from a person who said there was going to be an attempt made against CABELL's life. During that telephonic conversation, Chief CURRY told Mayor CABELL he had given the aforementioned information to ROBERT C. LISH of the local Federal Bureau of Investigation Office, and LISH called the Mayor at home, at which time the Mayor said that he had received the information from Chief CURRY. Chief CURRY recommended that the Mayor take a later flight. Subsequent to this call, he received a telephone call from a friend of his, whom he did not name, that OSWALD had been shot and to turn his television set on, which he did. He then received a call from Chief CURRY advising that OSWALD had been shot. Mayor CABELL relates that he then told Chief CURRY that he was watching television regarding that incident at that moment.

Mayor CABELL also advised that he had heard no information at any time prior to the shooting of OSWALD that there was any threat made against OSWALD's life or

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OSWALD's safety from any sources. Mayor CABELL stated that, of course, he had read such a statement in the papers to the effect that Chief CURRY had received word regarding a threat to OSWALD's safety prior to OSWALD's shooting.

At the conclusion of this interview with Mayor CABELL, he voluntarily stated he had always had a high regard for the Director and for Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and has always enjoyed a good-working relationship with them and desired that the facts in this case be established. Mayor CABELL concluded by stating that there are people who are crying for "blood" in this matter; however, he is not taking any unwarranted action against Chief CURRY to satisfy the "wolves."

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