Topic #6 - Dallas Police Dept/Special Service Bureau/Red Squad/Army Intelligence outline

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Dallas Police Dept/Special Service Bureau/Red Squad/Army Intelligence outline

OK - here's 12 bullet points on the real (or imagined?) sins of Lumpkin and Gannaway - please send your comments and additions!

I consider Lumpkin and Gannaway part of a suspicious small group that includes...

DPD personnel chief William Westbrook (who allegedly worked with the CIA),

Sergeant Jerry Hill (a former police reporter),

Reserve sergeant Kenneth Croy, (who allegedly "found" the Tippit wallet at his death scene and never reported it, and was suspected by the WC as assisting Jack Ruby in getting in position to shoot Oswald)

and Lt. George Butler (Gannaway's partner for many years - who interviewed Jack Ruby at length back in 1950 and testified about it to the corruption investigations years later to the Kefauver Committee) - Harold Weisberg and others believe Butler gave the order to bring down Oswald prematurely before the escort vehicle was in place, also aiding Ruby in getting in position to shoot Oswald)

All six of these men are now deceased, but their friends and families can and should be interviewed.

These men should all be treated as suspects - there are small groups like this I can identify at another time - identifying their roles puts together an important building block of the JFK investigation.

1. Both Lumpkin and Gannaway were high-ranking DPD officials that were also members of Army Intelligence. Both men were present at the meeting reviewing the entire <u>operational plan for the motorcade conducted in</u> <u>Curry's office on 11/21/63</u>. Both men played central roles in the events that resulted in Oswald being named as a suspect in the moments before his capture at the Texas Theatre. Lt. George Butler - who was Gannaway's partner for many years - was the one in charge of the downtown jail at the time of the transfer of Oswald when he was shot by Jack Ruby.

2. Lumpkin was in the pilot car, 3 minutes ahead of the motorcade. It made a suspicious stop - talking to a policeman, unreported in any of the police affidavits - right in front of the book depository in the moments before the assassination. (21 WH 579; Scott, p. 273)

3. In the moments after the assassination, Lumpkin ordered the sealing of the book depository. (21 WH 580). This "sealing" proved to be very ineffective, as not all the doors were covered. Herbert Sawyer, the officer allegedly watching the doors after the "sealing", was the one who called in at 12:44 and got the radio call going that an unknown white man of nondescript build had told him that the shooter was **"Slender white male about 30, five feet ten, 165"**. <u>Sawyer was with the Special Services Bureau - his boss</u> was Gannaway. Sawyer was accused of corruption a few years after and resigned in disgrace.

4. Jerry Hill went to work for Westbrook in the personnel division just weeks before 11/22/63. Between the two men, they had access to all the personnel files. Westbrook was the decision-maker on hiring, firing, discipline, and Internal Affairs. Neither man had any business being at a crime scene - but Jerry Hill was one of the two men credited with finding the shells on the sixth floor and is photographed leaning out the window for the crime scene unit to come upstairs. The official report indicates that homicide officers found the shells in the TSBD - when in fact it was Jerry Hill and/or Luke Mooney.

5. "(Deputy Chief) Lumpkin (see Peter Dale Scott - Deep Politics, p. 274) then instructed Revill to organize his team against the east wall...and make a systematic search...a member of Revill's searching party...found the rifle."

Why was Lumpkin making these various decisions/ Because Lumpkin was head of the Service Division, which included George Doughty's Identification Bureau (this unit got the tip at 3:15 pm that there were cards in Oswald's wallet identifying him as "Alek Hidell" - the rifle was mail ordered in the name of Hidell), Fingerprint Section, Crime Scene Search Section, HQ Section, Warrant Section, Property Bureau and the Records Bureau. Lumpkin controlled the entire crime scene process and the subsequent processing - in other words, he controlled the evidence.

6. Lumpkin's role in taking Truly to Fritz right after Fritz's arrival at the TSBD with the story "<u>I don't know if it</u> <u>means anything</u>, but I'm missing a man - a young fellow named Lee Oswald." Truly was clutching a piece of paper he had already obtained from a phone call to "Aiken" at the warehouse for employee files were kept, and wrote down Oswald's age, height, weight, phone and address from his application form. (23, 5'9, 150, BL 31628, 2515 W. 5th Street, Irving)

7. The Houston Chronicle's 11/22 report that Oswald was **was the only one who couldn't be accounted for,'** in Truly's alleged employee roll-call according to <u>Detective Capt. Pat Gannaway</u>. That night, Gannaway led a group of officers to visit the home of TSBD employee Joseph Molina - who was singled out a long time ago by Communist Party leader and FBI informant William Lowery who was "the Herbert Philbrick of Dallas". Molina's name as a possible suspect got in the papers - and he wound up suing the Dallas police for defamation!

Revill said he got the list on 11/22 of TSBD employees that he gave to Gannaway, led with the wrong address of "Harvey Lee Oswald" as "605 Elsbeth" - this address came from from Detective Carroll or Detective Taylor or other "officers involved in the arrest". The list names a number of people as not in the building!

Even Dulles claimed he wanted to know the story on the Elsbeth address - which was probably <u>parked in the Army's</u> <u>"Harvey Lee Oswald" intelligence file for some time</u> - and Revill could have got it from Army Intelligence either before or on 11/22. <u>Revill's response for Dulles and the WC on 5/19/64 was that he got it orally from Carroll</u>, who misread the 602 Elsbeth address on LHO's library card when he looked at Oswald's wallet from "back over his shoulder" - Carroll was sitting in the front seat, so it's at least credible.

But note how the "Harvey Lee Oswald" is also in there - and that was the Army's file on him. Carroll did not "misread" that - there was all kinds of info in the wallet, none with that name! Also note how the WC refused to address the "Harvey Lee Oswald" on the list, only the "605 Elsbeth".

Detective Carroll was with <u>Gannaway's criminal intelligence unit</u>, and also came up with the pistol allegedly Oswald's at the theater.

Molina was accused by Gannaway's team during the night of Nov. 22 of associating with Communist and subversive elements and indicated that Molina was a friend of Oswald. Molina knew who Oswald was, but had no relationship with him. One spooky fact is that "Prayer Man" was standing next to Molina in the notorious photos. Was Molina being intimidated in some way? I earlier said Molina sued the police - <u>he sued the Radio Station WRR for false statements</u> <u>made by the police</u> - but I see nothing showing he sued the police themselves.

8. Peter Dale Scott wrote in 2010 about "the coincidence that the same 488th Army Intelligence Reserve unit helped generate the false Marina story, as well as the false Stringfellow report." Scott points to a number of false reports about Oswald's alleged rifle, and specifically reports indicating, falsely, that Marina Oswald presumed Oswald's rifle in Dallas to be the rifle he owned in Russia.

(Marina's actual words, before mis-translation, were quite innocuous: "I cannot describe it [the gun] because a rifle to me like all rifles.")

...The interpreter who first supplied the Marina story, Ilya Mamantov, was selected as the result of a phone call between Deputy Police Chief George Lumpkin and Jack Crichton. We have already seen that Crichton commanded the 488th; and Lumpkin, in addition to being the Deputy Police Chief, was also a deputy commander of the 488th under Crichton."

9. Scott also points to the statement made by "Assistant Chief Don Stringfellow, Intelligence Section, Dallas Police Department, (who) notified 112th INTC [Intelligence] Group, this Headquarters, that information obtained from Oswald revealed he had defected to Cuba in 1959 and is a card-carrying member of Communist Party.

The cable sent on November 22 from the Fourth Army Command in Texas to the U.S. Strike Command at Fort MacDill in Florida, the base poised for a possible retaliatory attack against Cuba.

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<u>...Stringfellow's superior officer, Captain W.P. Gannaway</u>, was a member of Army Intelligence Reserve. Later Ed Coyle, himself a warrant officer of the 112th Intelligence Group, testified to the Assassinations Records Review Board that all the officers in the DPD's Intelligence Section were in army intelligence.

Actually they were almost certainly in the 488th Army Intelligence Reserve unit of Dallas: Jack Crichton, the head of the 488th, revealed in an oral history that there were "about a hundred men in that unit and about forty or fifty of them were from the Dallas Police Department." (Russ Baker, Family of Secrets, p. 122)

10. On 2/26/64 - in an <u>effort made to resolve chain of possession of backyard photo</u> - <u>Lumpkin "forgets" he</u> <u>made multiple copies and made them available</u> on November 23 and November 24, but Carl Day tells on him, saying that "24 or more" were placed on a table for law enforcement officers - and "anyone" could have got ahold of them. This act directly violated a police order issued on November 22 that "<u>photographs (in the JFK case) were to be disseminated only on authority of the Chief's office".</u> Lumpkin was a deputy chief - not the chief.

Days later, even the hangdog WC was <u>asking the FBI for info on the "chain of possession" on the backyard</u> <u>photo</u> - apparently sold to Life by Marina and James Martin for 5K -

Bullet point #11

<u>Stringfellow mistakenly identifies Oswald as being arrested in the balcony.</u> Was this a slip by someone who couldn't remember what he was and wasn't supposed to know? Many have pointed to this as evidence that <u>another man looking like Oswald was apprehended in the balcony and taken out the back door - as witnessed by hobby store owner Bernard Haire</u> - and the man in the balcony was the man who was chased by Johnny Brewer into the theater.

Brewer <u>exchanged words before he began his pursuit with 2 unnamed IBM employees</u> who frequented his shoe store in the weeks before 11/22 and would "<u>kill time and lounge around</u>", who were <u>listening to the radio reports of the Tippit</u> <u>shooting right before the Oswald sighting</u>. Brewer had known them <u>throughout the time of his employment</u> - he began working there in <u>August 1962</u>. Were these IBM employees part of the operation? This Stringfellow ID of "Oswald arrested in the balcony" is the opening of the Criminal Intelligence file maintained by Gannaway. For whatever reason, <u>Gannaway ordered a string of interviews on or about Feb. 17, 1964</u> - probably at the request of the Warren Commission.

Ticket taker Julia Postal heard about the announcement of JFK's death on the radio - which was at 1:30 - "just about the time all chaos broke loose". Moments later, <u>as her boss was leaving the building, the Oswald figure entered the theater</u> with Brewer in pursuit. After Postal called the police, the dispatcher told Jerry Hill and others at 1:46 that the suspect was "in the balcony". Bob Carroll of <u>Gannaway's Special Services Bureau</u> gets Oswald's gun inside the theater, who hands it over to an insistent Jerry Hill - who calls in the report to the dispatcher that <u>Oswald was captured at 1:51</u>.

Bullet Point #12

The questions posed to <u>the housekeeper Earlene Roberts</u> at Oswald's apartment are extremely important. Officer Elmo Cunningham from the Forgery Division and two other officers identified the boarder to her as "Harvey Lee Oswald" at 2:40 pm - we don't know which one said it, but Cunningham was the ranking officer. (Cunningham had come straight from the Texas Theatre, collecting a list of witnesses at Westbrook's orders - this list was never seen again.) <u>She repeated that ID twice</u>, saying that she only knew "O. H. Lee" and they were asking about "Harvey Lee Oswald".

(<u>A tip from military intelligence was received by Robert Jones "early that afternoon" that A. J. Hidell had been arrested</u> - he was told the 112th MIG records referred to "<u>Ana J. Hidell</u>". The tip that Jones got came from "Dowdy". "<u>Dowdy" provided more hot tips that night to the 112th</u>, claiming that Marina had id'd the rifle as Oswald's and two men were firing at silhouette targets on 11/20 in Dealey Plaza!

Dowdy was actually "Captain George Doughty", described by FBI as "<u>head of the Crime Lab</u>" for Dallas. <u>Doughty was also in charge of the Identification Bureau</u>. <u>Doughty also got the call to go to the Texas Theatre</u> <u>at 1:40 pm, and was joined by polygraph chief Paul Bentley</u>.

Jones testified that the info from the Army file that included "Alek Hidell" were passed on at 3:15 to the FBI (180-10116-10200, not on MFF) - and that <u>the tip he was given said nothing about Oswald.</u>

However, this 2:40 tip about Harvey Lee Oswald, probably from the now-destroyed Army intelligence file entitled "Harvey Lee Oswald", and probably the source of the Hidell tip, is even earlier than 3:15! (After Jones got this tip, he checked the Military Intelligence index for Hidell and came up with Oswald! Then Jones called the FBI at 3:15) The best indication is that the tip came from George Doughty of the Dallas Police Lab/Dallas ID Bureau/112th MIG.

The officers that visited Roberts at 2:40 pm were Lt. Elmo L. Cunningham, with police officers Bill Senkel and William Potts. Roberts referred to them as "Fritz's men" - she had a long-standing familiarity with the Dallas police. (One man's opinion on Fritz and company: <u>Former Dallas DA Travis Kirk</u> opined that Fritz could have easily set up Fritz's death; one of his clients claimed Tippit had raped her; and that Ruby's first attorney Tom Howard had a stable of prostitutes.)

Whether or not they were "Fritz's men", <u>Cunningham and Potts were clearly the "Bunko Squad" - the forgery</u> <u>unit</u>, they would examine fraud and con men. Historically, bunko squad men were often used in internal affairs, because capturing a dirty cop is not easy. To catch a con artist - it often takes a con artist. Westbrook was a con artist. So was Cunningham.

The ranking officer who was questioning the housekeeper about "Harvey Lee Oswald" at the scene at 2:40 pm would have been Cunningham.

Lt. Cunningham came straight from the Texas Theatre, <u>where he had been handed Westbrook's list of 21 or</u> <u>22 witnesses to the capture of Oswald</u>. He had been collecting names with Detectives John Toney, E.E. Taylor (<u>who answered to Gannaway at the Special Services Bureau</u>) and the polygraph chief Bentley (who claimed he found Oswald's wallet in his pocket)

Westbrook's list of Texas Theatre witnesses was never seen again. I have found no record that Cunningham or Taylor was ever questioned about this list. <u>Cunningham's report says nothing about the list.</u> <u>Taylor writes in his report that he and Cunningham and Toney put the list together</u>. Toney reports <u>the theatre was locked so they could interview the witnesses</u>. Cunningham had one of his men wait in the car when he went towards the balcony of the theatre - <u>Cunningham and Detective Toney came out with one witness who was questioned</u>, but <u>there is no record</u> of the name of the witness Cunningham and Toney questioned in the balcony nor the "manager" that he and Toney spoke with.

<u>Here's a good map for the proximity of the boarding house/Texas Theatre events</u>. Note how Cunningham went straight from questioning witnesses at the Theatre after the 1:50 arrest of Oswald to leading the interview at Oswald's boarding house at 2:40.

A couple weeks later, <u>Cunningham went out of his way to try to debunk Kirk Coleman's story that he saw</u> <u>three men fleeing the Walker shooting</u> - even though others support Coleman's story. <u>During June of 1963</u> <u>Cunningham had gone out of his way to claim that Walker's aide "Bill Duff did not have anything to do" with his</u> <u>shooting</u>. He admitted elsewhere that <u>Duff was a con man and a check passer</u>, but cleared him based on what I consider an inherently unreliable method - the polygraph. Again, Bentley was in charge of polygraphs.

I should end with emphasizing Steve Thomas's find that Carroll made up his story about "mis-reading 602 Elsbeth" as "605 Elsbeth" by "looking over his shoulder" in the car after Carroll testified to the WC the previous

month that he heard nothing in the car about Oswald's address.

Like Taylor, Carroll also answered to Gannaway. We don't know if Doughty, Carroll and Taylor were also part of the 488th, but they were certainly Army Intelligence and I assume all part of the 112th.

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