UNITED STATES GOL ANMENT Memoranaum

Mr. Gebhardf

FROM : R. F. Bates,

FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 22, 1963

DATE: 1 - Mr. Gebhardt 1 - Mr. Bates 1 - Mr. Nettles 1 - Mr. McDermott 1 - Mr. Wannall 1 - Mr. White 1 - Mr. Long

This concerns allegations from several sources that E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis, Watergate figures, and Thomas Arthur Vallee of Chicago, Illinois, were arrested near the Texas School Book Depository in Dallas, Texas, shortly after the assassination of President Kennedy on 11/22/63. Photographs of the arrest have been compared by the Laboratory Division with known photographs of these three individuals with a determination being made that the persons in the photographs are not Hunt, Sturgis and Vallee.

Additionally, U. S. Secret Service had confirmed in 1963, that Vallee was at work in Chicago on the day of the assassination.

After meeting on 10/7/74, with Benjamin C. Bradlee, Editor of "The Washington Post," the Director advised that Captain Will Fritz, the Dallas, Texas, police officer who was in charge of that department's investigation of the assassination, should be interviewed for any knowledge he might have of this matter. He also advised that Hunt and Sturgis should be interviewed to determine their whereabouts on 11/22/63.

On 10/7/74, Agents of the Dallas Office interviewed Captain Fritz, who is now retired. He had no recollection of the persons in the photographs. He said numerous persons were brought in for questioning on the day of the assassination and then released when they were eliminated from any implication.

5 NOV 15 1974

CONTINUED -

Brotan

OFCAR 17

WEN: dka (8)

1 101 10 10 14

Bates to Gebhard emorandum RE! ASSASSINATION OF JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

At the request of the Special Prosecutor's Office, interviews of Hunt and Sturgis were held in abeyance until after the Watergate jury was sequestered.

Hunt was interviewed by Agents of the Baltimore Office on 10/17/74. He recalled originally hearing of the assassination on his car radio while in Washington, D. C., with his wife (now deceased). He said he must have been on leave from work at Central Intelligence Agency at the time. He could recall no conversations on that date with anyone with the possible exception of a neighbor who now lives in Florida. Hunt further advised that he has filed a libel suit against the "National Tattler" newspaper regarding an article of 3/31/74, which stated he was in Dallas, Texas, on 11/22/63.

By memorandum of 10/29/74, the Central Intelligence Agency advised that Hunt conducted no official travel during November, 1963. During the four-week pay period ending 11/23/63, he took 11 hours sick leave and no annual leave. Specific dates of the leave could not be determined since Time and Attendance Records are destroyed after three years in accordance with established procedures. The only records maintained after three years are total number of hours taken during particular pay periods.

On 10/17/74, ASAC Frederick F. Fox of the Miami Office was contacted regarding interviewing Sturgis. He suggested that an interview of Sturgis might be inadvisable for the following reasons: (1) Sturgis is a known source of columnist Jack Anderson, (2) Sturgis may claim harassment if interviewed, and (3) Sturgis, who is on bond in the Watergate case, might try to use any involvement with the FBI to attempt to mitigate his sentence.

Bates to Gebhardr memorandum RE: ASSASSINATI OF JOHN FITZGERALD KENNE

NH

## ACTION:

It is recommended that no further investigation be conducted in this matter for the following reasons: (1) The Laboratory Division is of the opinion that Vallee, Hunt and Sturgis are not the ones in the arrest photographs, (2) It has been confirmed that Vallee was in Chicago, Illinois, on 11/22/63, (3) Central Intelligence Agency records appear to support Hunt's contention that he was in Washington, D. C., on that date, and (4) Any investigation or interview of Sturgis would appear to be inadvisable.

Tot for a