FBI

Date: 2/25/64 Transmit the following in . (Type in plain text or code) AIR MAIL (Priority) DIRECTOR, FBI (100-10240)SAC. SPRINGFIELD FROM: SUBJECT: ISM - C As the Bureau is aware, subject, Professor of Classics at the University of Illinois, is a national functionary of the John Birch Society and a regular contributor to the national monthly publication of this organization. In a recent issue he alleged President KENNEDY was assassinated by Communist conspiracy. Subject further alleged KENNEDY was part of a Communist conspiracy to deliver the United States into Communist control and was assassinated because he failed to do so. The above article caused considerable controversy as to subject's fitness to remain on the faculty of the University of Illinois. University administrative officials, including President DAVID D. HENRY, took the position that subject is entitled to express the above opinion as a private citizen, and no immediate administrative action against him is anticipated. President HENRY, however, publicly labeled the charges as irresponsible and unfounded and has referred the matter to a faculty committee for study and recommendations. American Association of University Professors has expressed approval of action taken by HENRY. 2/24/64 telephonically advised SA CHARLES TRAVELSTEAD as follows: 12.101060 - Bureau (RM) NUT RECORDED - Denver (RM) 193 MAT 9 1964 2 - Springfield (100-10240) CT: css

 Sent

Ros

sent

SI 100-10240

ROGER EBERT, Editor of the "Daily Illini," University of Illinois newspaper, told that he received a telephone call on 2/24/64 from the Editor of the "Colorado Daily," University of Colorado newspaper. The caller told EBERT that ALEX GARBER, a faculty member at the University of Colorado, told him that he knew subject many years ago as a Communist Party member under the party name OLIVER CARLSON. GARBER was described as an admitted former Communist Party member who has publicly repudiated his former Communist connections.

advised that EBERT told him that neither the "Daily Illini" nor the "Colorado Daily" planned to publish this allegation.

also said that no action would be taken by the University of Illinois at this time. He emphasized, however, that should this allegation be made public and should it become known that University of Illinois officials knew of it, their position would be that it was reported to the FBI on the same date it was received. Is stated that until he advised to the contrary he desired his identity protected. He is an established and reliable source at the University of Illinois and has been contacted on many occasions in the past in security investigations, particularly where access to University records is desired on a highly confidential basis.

The Bureau is requested to authorize the Denver Office to interview ALEX GARBER for full details concerning subject's former Communist Party membership, unless information appears in Bureau files or those of the Denver Office which would preclude interview. If GARBER is interviewed, Denver is requested to submit results in form suitable for dissemination.

GIBBONS

12 1. 8860

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE

Assassination of President Kenned

200 Maryland Avc. NE. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

Mr. Evans Tavy Tac. Roum Miles Helmans Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation Department of Justice Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Hoover:

EARL WARREN.

RICHARD B RUSSELL

GERALD R. FOR

JOHN J. McCLOY ALLEN W. DULLE

JOHN SHERMAN-COOPER HALE BOGGS

> I am glad that we had the apportunity to discuss personally on January 28, 1904, the allegations to the effect that Lee Harvey Oswald was an informant of the Federal Burcau of Investigation.

Since our meeting, the Commission has received many helpful materials from your office concerning these allegations. I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letters dated February 6 and 12, 1964, enclosing your own affidavit as well as various affidavits submitted by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who interviewed Lee Harvey Oswald or had responsibility for the supervision of Bureau informants in the areas where Oswald lived. I know that the Commission will consider these submissions, supplemented by your recent interviews of District Attorney Wade and Houston "Post" reporter Hudkins, as important contributions to the Commission's work.

In light of our continuing review of these allegations, I would like to bring to your attention one related matter. Your letter of January 27, 1964, advised the Commission that Special Agent James P. Hosty's name, office telephone number and automobile license number, one digit off, appeared in Oswald's address book. In so informing the Commission, your letter supplied information which appears to have been omitted from an earlier report of the FBI submitted to this Commission.

FEB 24 196

Specifically, the report of Special Agent Gemberling dated December 23, 1963, at Dallas, Texas, beginning at page 672 purports to set forth the names, addresses and/or phone numbers contained in Oswald's address book. At page 696 of this report, certain entries are set forth with an indication that they appear on page 74 of the address book. Examination of the address book reveals that certain information has been omitted at this point in your report, including Special Agent Hosty's name, a telephone number, a license number, the date "Nov 1, 1963," and an address, "1114 Commerce St Dallas."

The Commission would like to be informed of the circumstances surrounding this omission. More particularly, it would assist the Commission in appraising the significance of this matter if we knew the names of the agents, including supervisors, who prepared this portion of the report or made any decision to omit information from the report. Meedless to say, we would like a full explanation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin General Counsel

and from to benow detaile of this at once

IF. DeLog(); I - IF. Rosen; I-Com I - IF. Royne; I - IF. ReSeven; - IF. Lenklan

Reference is med, to your letter of February 20,
1964, therein you requested to be advised of the circumstances surrounding the enission of frecial Agent Jensey is named and reflect deta as appearing in Lee Harvey 6s and seddress been in our report of Special Agent Report P. Cemberling dated become 23, 1963, at Ballos, Tenas, in the Osmald case. You indicated it would assist the Commission in appreciaing the significance of this matter if it knew the names of the Agents, including supervisors, the prepared this portion of the report or made any decision to emit information from the report.

You indicated also that you would like a full explanation.

For your information, I have determined that

Special Agent Rebert P. Gerberling unde the decision as to
what information should be included in his report of December 23,

1963. I also determined the Coccial Agent John T. Resier &
had responsibility for reviewing photographic copies of the the
pages of Los Hervey Comald's address book to determine which
items special investigative attention. Such items were set
forth as i vestigative loses to be covared and it was such lead
material to be and incorporated in Special Agent Comberling's
report of becamber 23, 1968.

The coolesing herewith officerite encerted by Epocial Agrees Rebort P. Sectoraling and John T. Resier wherein the bottom acres and the cooling of the lineary of which a litropa book.

ice unic Nesca vo Belmont 2-23-64, JKN:KEL:FPD:PAY

DUPLICATE YELLOW.

74 MAR 9-1964

Honorable J. Lee Rankin

I want you to know that I feel our reporting procedures in this matter are completely logical and sound. This Bureau never purported that Special Agent Gemberling's report of December 23, 1963, contained the complete listing of Lee Harvey Oswald's address book and, as you know, additional items in Oswald's address book not previously reported were furnished to the Commission in the report of Special Agent Robert P. Gemberling dated February 11, 1964, at Dallas, Texas.

This Bureau from the beginning of this investigation has developed and reported all available and relevant facts and it will continue to do so.

I trust that this letter and the enclosures thereto will satisfy the requirements of the Commission.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (2)

2

: Director, FBI

egat, Paris (100-1793) (P.)

SUBJECT:

THOMAS GITTINGS BUCHANAN, JR. SH -C Bufile 100-354341 Paris file 100-1793

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KEHNEDY NOVLMBUR 22, 1963 DALLAS, TEXAS MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING Bufile 62-109060 Paris file 62-148

Re Paris letter 6-13-(3 Captioned THOMAS GITTINGS BUCHANAN, JR., SM - C]

Subject recently came to the attention of this office as the author of an article concerning the assassination of the late President KENNEDY which appeared in the 2-20-64 4 issue of "L'Express", a Paris weekly newspaper whose political leanings are oriented to the left. Copy of the article is enclosed for the Bureau and the Bureau may wish to have BUCHANAN's article translated in its entirety. If this is done, it is requested that a copy of the translation be forwarded to Paris for the completion of the Paris file.

In a preface to the article BUCHANAN is described as a 44-year-old American novelist, author of "La Licorne", which was chosen in 1960 by the New York Times as one of the best books of the year, who is presently employed in Paris as an electronics engineer.

In general BUCHANAN's article claims that authorities investigating the assassination of the late President KENNEDY and the state of the state of the state of

6 - Bureau (Enc. 1) Ligison Section 2 - Paris (100-1793; 62-148) REP:HD
(8)

MOT RECORDED . 199 MAR 9 1964

Papis 100-1793

started with the hypothesis that MARVEY LEE OSWALD alone was responsible for the murder, and thereafter as the investigation progressed, authorities either changed or disregarded facts in general asserts that several asserts solution. BUCHANAN bases his theory on the number and direction of the shots, wounds, as well as OSWALD's prior poor record as a marksman.

The article indicates that future issues will although it is not clear whether or not they will be written additional information of interest.

-2-

THIS SERIAL HAS BEEN REFERRED TO
ANOTHER AGENCY AND IS IN A PENDING STATUS:

| FILE No. | 62-109060 | | | en e | |
|--------------|------------|------------|-----|--|--|
| SERIAL No. | UNRECORDED | 2 BEFORE 2 | 506 | | |
| PAGE No. | | | | | |
| No. of Pages | 2. | _ | | | |

SECTION NO.

48

ARMY

REFERRAL

UNITED SEATES GO

Mr. Belmont

February 28, 1964 DATE:

SSINATION OF....

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

11-22-63

B.CCE:

DALLAS, TLLES

Howard Willens of the President's Commission and Administrative Assistant to J. Lee Rankin called to advise that the "Life" magazine picture of Lee Harvey Oswald holding a rifle has been the subject of comment by James Martin, former manager of Marina Cawald. Martin was fired by her at the suggestion of Robert Oswald.

Willens stated that Martin yesterday stated to either Rankin or one of the members of the staff that a lawyer named Dd Murray of the "Detroit Free Press" indicated that the picture in "Life" magazine came from a leak in the Commission.

Willens asked whether we could talk to Ed Murray and check into this.

Before initiating any inquiries, I asked Willens whether we could tell Murray that the Commission had requested this interview because he obviously would be interested to know why we approached him on this matter. I also told Willens that we ought to be in a position beforehand to indicate to Murray whether this information came from Martin or someone else.

In addition, it was indicated that inasmuch as Willens was merely relaying information which had been furnished to him by Rankin which in turn had been relayed by a member of the staff, a question is always raised in paraphrasing the original story that it may have been 162-109060 - UNRE changed in its context.

NOT. RECORDED I told Willens that in a matter of such importance as this it would be well to have the exact text of the conversation which tooks place between the staff member and Mr. Martin so that it could be examined carefully before we ask any questions. I suggested to

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont RE: ASSASSIN, WION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

Willows that perhaps he may wish to discuss this further with Rankin and determine the position which the Commission desires to take and that we would be guided accordingly.

Willens advised me that he would discuss this matter further with Rankin the early part of next week and he would then be in touch with the Bureau. He therefore did not desire any interview at this time and withdrew his request.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

We will await further advice from Willens on this matter, and if a request is received to inquire into this matter, we will suggest that such a request be in writing from the Commission.

1

2-27-64

PLAIN TEXT

AIR TEL

PRIORITY

TO:

105-82555

Sec Continues Association

Director, FBI (69-10966)

FROM:

Legat, Paris (105-1067) (P.)

SUBJECT:

LEE HARVEY OSWALD

IS - R - CUBA

Re Denver air tel to the Bureau 12-9-63 with enclosure.

On 2-26-64 JOHN BASS, 706th Intelligence Corps Detachment (AIC), orally furnished the following information in captioned matter:

BASS identified HOWARD CHEN mentioned in referenced LHM as HOWARD C. COWEN, U. S. Art Medical Corps, Metz, France. The unknown individual mentioned in referenced LHM as having decoded newspaper headlines to predict assassination of President KENNEDY is identified as

BASS stated further that following psychiatric examination at was described as paranoid individual and his discharge from the Army was recommended due to inability to adjust to military life. was ordered to Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D.C., in and was last known to be there as a patient.

BASS stated an official report from Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, at Orleans, is expected in about a week, and we will submit an LHM suitable for dissemination at that time. Request no dissemination of above information at present so as not to jeopardize existing confidential relationship with the AIC.

4 - Bureau (1 - Liaison Section 1 - Denver, 89-41) 1 - Paris REP:HD

193 MAR 70 1 4

UNREC. AFTER 2505

79 MAR 11 196 30

(5)

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Paris 105-1067

Paris files contain a reference to in Bern air tel to the Bureau 11-8-63 cartioned which sets forth additional activities of also have previously come to the lureau's attention in captioned matter since his statements and actions apparently received considerable publicity.

TO DATE: 2/28/64 FROM osen ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT SUBJECT: JOHN F. KENNEDY. 11/22/63 DALLAS, TEXAS PURPOSE: To recommend that authority be granted to have Joachim Joesten, an admitted "left wing liberal" interviewed concerning his alleged knowledge of the assassination of President Kennedy. DETAILS: The Department by communication dated 2/20/64 forwarded to us a copy of a form-type, unsigned and undated letter from Joachim Joesten who maintains residence in New York City and La Ciotat, France. This letter appears to have been prepared for dissemination to book publishers. In the letter Joesten states in December, 1963, he was commissioned by Germany's "biggest publication," Der Stern, to go to Dallas for the purpose of conducting private investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy. He states on the strength of "exhaustive, documented findings" he is convinced Oswald is innocent and that he has also developed clues to the real assassins. Joesten continues that he has written two books one in German and one in English, relating his findings which should be available at an early date for publication. The book will be entitled "Impossible Assassin" and he allegedly has written 100,000 words concerning the case. There is no ... apparent purpose for Joesten sending this to the Attorney General other than it does relate to the Attorney General's late brother. Enc. 62-109060 1 -[100-37044 (Joachim Joesten) 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach ... 1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan 1 - F. J. Baumgardner RDR: whmiar

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY

BACKGROUND:

Bureau files disclose that we have numerous references identical with Joesten who previously had been the subject of an internal security investigation originating in New York. This file was opened in August, 1941, following receipt at the State Department of an anonymous communication sent from Stockholm, Sweden, alleging that one Joachim Joesten was a communist. Immigration and Naturalization Service investigation in 1941 failed to produce any proof which would indicate Joesten was a communist.

Joesten was born 6/29/07 at Cologne, Germany, and was naturalized in June, 1948. He has traveled extensively throughout the world and has been employed as a correspondent for numerous foreign and American newspapers. He has written numerous books, several of which have been reviewed by the Bureau. At a citizenship hearing on 2/14/47 Joesten stated he considered himself a "left wing liberal" and indicated he may have adopted the communist party line in his youth as a means of fighting Nazis.

In 1957 German authorities requested our Legat in Bonn interview Joesten concerning some statements he made in a book which German authorities felt contained "invented narrations." The Bureau at this time did not feel that an interview of Joesten was advisable since there was no assurance he would be cooperative and further that the book did not involve the Bureau or the U. S. Government.

OBSERVATIONS:

Inasmuch as Joesten has indicated on the basis of documented findings he feels that Oswald is innocent, that he has "clues" to the identity of the assassins, that this matter was forwarded by the Department and finally that it is possible this matter could result in a request for investigation by the President's Commission, it is felt we should take the initiative and have Joesten interviewed concerning the assassination.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

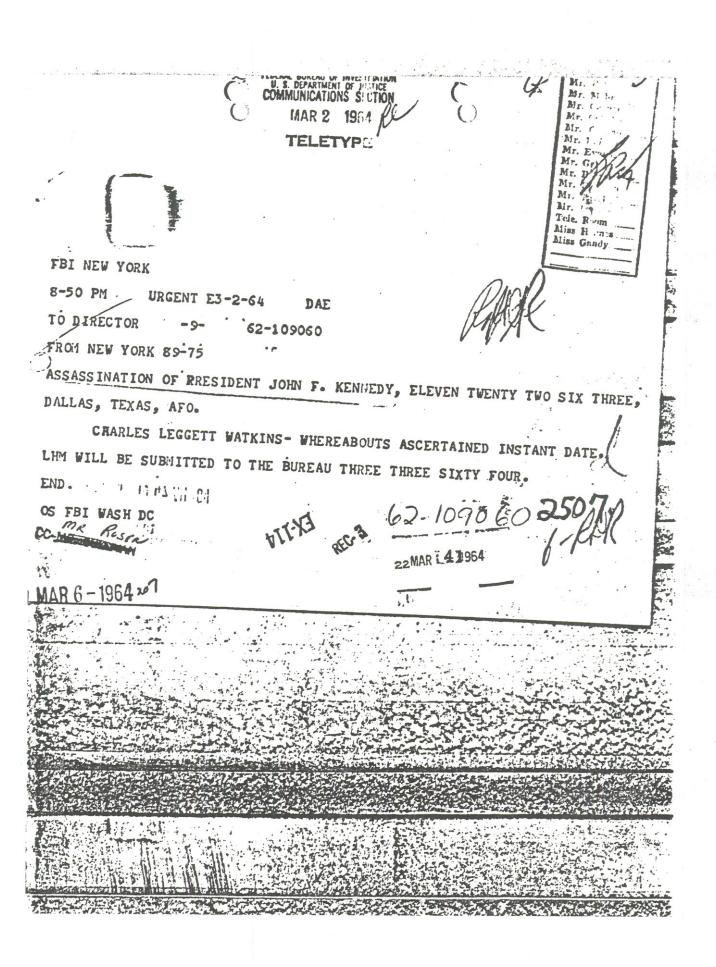
ACTION:

1. That the attached airtel to New York and the Legats at Bonn and Paris be sent instructing that efforts be made to locate and interview Joesten concerning the assassination.

2. The Bureau will follow this matter and insure the President's Commission is appropriately advised of the results of our inquiries.

9 Replie

No Koure



| FBI FEITS Mr. Cellulan | |
|--|--|
| Date: 2/27/64 Mr. Evans | |
| Transmit the following in | |
| (Type in plain text or code) (((1))(1) L7 Mr. 12vd 13ir. 11vdcc | |
| Via ARTEL AM Telf. Room Nife Holmes | |
| Miss Gandy | |
| TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555) | |
| FROM W SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1166) (RUC) | |
| ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F KENNEDY. | |
| DALLAS, TEXAS, 11/22/63 LASSAULTING PEDERAL OFFICER | |
| LOUIDE. | |
| Re: Information Concerning J. P. DAVIDSON, Memphis, Tennessee, and DeSoto County, | |
| Mississippi | |
| Enclosed herewith are 8 cories to Bureau and 2 copies to | |
| Dallas of letterhead memorandum captioned/as above, dated 2-27-64. This information was furnished by | |
| Memphis, Tennessee, who requested that his identity be maintained in confidence. | |
| WACE, no investigation being conducted in Memphis and no | |
| leads being set out. Request for investigation being left to | |
| The water than the same of the | |
| ENCIOSIDE 3-F-64 RORIAM REQ. REC'D D. D. C. C. | |
| 3 BUREAU (Enc. 8) 2 DALLAS (Enc. 2) ANS | |
| 3 MEMPHIS (44-1166) BY: | |
| (66-1687-SUB) (Dissemination File) (100-3984) (Travel of President in United States C. R. and Puerto Rico) | |
| That I JAC:BN | |
| 1 styre (8) 62-109/10 -2508 | |
| M D 33 1 P Mm 27.7/2 22MAR [4 1964) | |
| Tec. C. C. Wick | |
| 2 444 | |
| Sent M Per | |
| Special Agent in Charge | |
| | |



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

341 Federal Office Building Memphis, Tennessee 33103 February 27, 1964

Information Concerning J. P. Davidson.

On February 25, 1964, an individual who requested his identity not be disclosed, contacted the Memphis Office of the Federal Dureau of Investigation and furnished the following information.

Cource stated he has had a number of contacts with Mr. J. P. Davidson, who operates an Army Surplus Store on South Main Street just below the Chisca Hotel in Memphis. He lives in DeSoto County, Mississippi, on Goodwyn Road, and is reportedly a friend and adviser of former Governor Ross E. Barnett and present Governor Paul D. Johnson of Mississippi. This source said that during the latter part of September or early Cotober, 1963, he was in the office of Mr. Davidson on South Main Street in Memphis, and he heard Mr. Davidson remark that when President Mennedy went to Texas "they are joing to shoot him" and "those people (Texans) are riled up about the Mississippi situation and the people in Texas are not going to take it in Texas."

Source said Mr. Davidson continued in effect to say, "Those fellows in Texas are deer hunters," meaning they are expert shots with rifles, and they would "get the whole Kennedy group." Source then heard Mr. Davidson say in effect that a wealthy Texan, name not mentioned, had ordered a "fancy" casket and if anything happened, they would "send him (presumably President Kennedy) home in the finest box in Texas."

According to source, Davidson did not give any indication as to where he received this information. He did infer he had been talking to someone but did not say to whom.

The source said Mr. Davidson's wife may have been in the room during the time of this conversation. The source has heard Mr. Davidson make similar statements to a number of other people.

COPPES DESTROYED

4 4 DEC 27 1972

Source continued he had seen Mr. Davidson seven or eight times since the assassination of President Mennedy. On about January 15, 1964, he overheard Mr. Davidson mentioned the Mennedy assassination and comment the only thing wrong, with it has "they didn't get Dobby." Source further recalled about December 1, he saw Mr. Davidson in his office and heard him state something to the effect there was much happiness in Mississippi "over the Texas incident," obviously referring to the assassination of the late President Mennedy. He further heard Mr. Davidson mention something to the effect that Mississippians were sorry "they didn't get Dobby."

The source described Mr. J. T. Davidson as a white male, about 55 years of age, 5'10" to 6' tall, 100 pounds, "flabby" build, hair sandy-gray and balding, married, no children, peculiarities, was crappled during armed forces service, suffering back injury, talks stooped over due to gall bladder operation.

Source stated he had no further information.