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Federal Bureau of Investigation Department of Justice Washington, D C

Gentlemen

Oct 12/4/63 CJJ: FIN NML

In connection with the assassination of the President, I saw Oswald state on television that he wanted a John Abt, an attorney in New York City, to represent him. There is a John J Apt, Attorney, listed in the Manhattan telephone book, his office being at 320 Broadway and his residence at 444 Central Park West. Later on during the day, a radio commentator advised that their reporters had checked into this individual and found his office closed and his residence apartment closed, but that at the residence they found numerous pieces of mail indicating he was receiving mail from left wing organizations. Since then nothing more has been said about John Abt.

I immediately remembered that there was a Abt connected with the Alger Hiss case, and upon checking into the matter see that his name is indeed John Abt. Chambers claims that Abt was a member of the Ware cell in Washington and that Hiss was also a member of this same cell.

If the John Abt that Oswald apparently knew is the same John Abt that was connected with the Hiss case, it would seem to me to be a very important matter, for there may be a very sinister plot in this terrible assassination.

Since nothing more was ever said about John Abt, I thought it might be well for me to call this matter to your attention. I hope I am doing the right thing in writing you this letter.

Yours truly.

C Carter Byrd

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