



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Dallas, Texas

March 24, 1964

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD
KENNEDY, NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

The following investigation was conducted concerning an allegation by Mark Lane, an attorney representing Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, to the effect that about one week before the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy a meeting occurred in Jack L. Ruby's Carousel Club, Dallas, Texas, attended by Bernard Weissman, Officer J. D. Tippit, of the Dallas Police Department, and Ruby.

A source, who requested that his identity be protected, but who has furnished reliable information in the past, furnished the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation a transcript of a recording of a meeting held on February 18, 1964, at The Town Hall, 123 West 13rd Street, New York, New York, by the "National Guardian." Mark Lane was a featured speaker and stated in part as follows:

"Should the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secret Service and the Dallas Police decide in this matter to conduct honest investigation and to give that information to the Warren Commission, an investigation not dedicated to a theory they know in all likelihood is false, I would suggest that they begin with an examination of a prearranged two-hour meeting, which I have reason to believe took place a week before the assassination of the President. Present at that meeting, I'm informed, were Bernard Weissman, author of the full-page, infamous advertisement appearing in the Dallas Morning News on the day of the assassination, Patrolman Tippit, and one other leading character on the Dallas scene, not Lee Oswald. Within a period of weeks, I'll be free to reveal the name of the third person who was present at this meeting which took place in the Carousel, a strip-tease club operated by Jack Ruby."

Mr. Larrie Henry Schmidt, 5735 Gaston Avenue, Dallas, Texas, on December 3, 1963, advised in part as follows:

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He stated that Bernard Weissman and William M. Burley are two friends of his who served in the United States Army with him at Munich, Germany, during 1962. He stated that about the time of arrival of Weissman and Burley in Dallas, Texas, around the first of November, 1963, he (Schmidt) conceived the idea of placing an advertisement in a newspaper pertaining to President Kennedy's visit to Dallas on November 22, 1963. Schmidt stated he does not know Lee Harvey Oswald or Jack Ruby. He further stated that Bernard Weissman, William Burley and Joseph P. Grinnan do not know either Oswald or Ruby so far as he knows.

Mr. William Milton Burley, II, advised on December 4, 1963, that during the time he was in Dallas he never heard any of the people with whom he came into contact in the John Birch Society, or other conservatives, mention the name Lee Harvey Oswald or the name Jack Ruby. He said that he never heard Bernard Weissman, Joe or Robert Grinnan, or Larrie Schmidt ever refer to either Ruby or Oswald. Burley advised that neither did he hear any of these people mention any violence towards President Kennedy and it was his opinion that the people he met in the group were sound, sensible businessmen, who disagreed with the policies of President Kennedy and the administration, and he cannot seriously believe that they ever entertained thoughts of assassinating the President of the United States.

Mr. Bernard William Weissman advised on December 5, 1963, that he did not know Lee Harvey Oswald and, to his knowledge, never met Oswald. He also stated he never met nor did he know Jack Ruby.

Detective Thomas Donald McMillon, Dallas Police Department, Dallas, Texas, advised on December 4, 1963, he has no knowledge of any relationship between Jack Ruby and Lee Harvey Oswald. McMillon stated while Ruby was being interviewed by Special Agent Hall (C. Ray Hall) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Ruby told Hall that he, Ruby, had seen an article in the Dallas newspaper by Bernard Weissman that was derogatory to Kennedy and Ruby wanted Hall to check Weissman out. Ruby appeared to be very concerned about this newspaper article and Ruby stated that he had gone to the Post Office to try to find out who Weissman was and his address.

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Mr. Frank Bellocchio, 9832 San Lea Drive, Dallas, Texas, advised on December 5, 1963, that on the afternoon of November 23, 1963, he was at Sol's Turf Bar, Dallas, Texas, and saw Jack Ruby standing away from the bar. Bellocchio advised he has known Ruby casually for approximately seven or eight years, and he stopped to talk with Ruby. During their conversation, Bellocchio took from his pocket a folded, full-page article prepared by Bernard Weissman that had appeared in a Dallas newspaper on November 22, 1963. Ruby, upon seeing the article, became very upset and loud. Ruby told Bellocchio that he had been to the newspaper and had been advised that there was no such person as Bernard Weissman. Ruby was also disturbed by the name Weissman, as Ruby felt that the name may have been used to create anti-Semitic feelings. Ruby told Bellocchio that he had learned that the ad placed by the person using the name Weissman had been partially paid for in cash and that a third of the price of the ad still remained unpaid. Bellocchio is specific in this recollection because he thought that it was odd that the paper would accept an ad on partial payment. Bellocchio had no information or knowledge of Ruby's associates or personal activities. Bellocchio did not know Lee Harvey Oswald, nor did he have any information pertaining to any association or acquaintance between Oswald and Ruby.

Mr. Stanley F. Kaufman, 1520 Mercantile Securities Building, Dallas, Texas, advised on November 26, 1963, that on the morning of November 23, 1963, Jack Ruby called him, appeared to be very upset and asked him if he had read the article placed in the Dallas News by a Bernard Weissman. Kaufman stated that he told Ruby he had seen it and Ruby asked, "Did you notice that this ad was bordered in black, which makes it look like a death tip?" Kaufman stated that Ruby wanted to know who Weissman was and how he could get in touch with him and if Mr. Freedman, of the Anti-Defamation League, could furnish him any information as to the whereabouts of Bernard Weissman. He stated Ruby also told him that he had tried to locate this Weissman through the Post Office Department, but was unable to do so. Kaufman stated that Ruby told him that he had been to the Dallas News Advertising Department and had raised "hell" with the Ad Department for accepting such an ad.

Mrs. Eva L. Grant, 3929 Rawlins Street, Apartment I, Dallas, Texas, advised on November 25, 1963, that on Friday morning,

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November 22, 1963, her telephone rang at her apartment and it was her brother, Jack Ruby, calling. Ruby asked her if she saw the advertisement in the morning paper which was a full-page ad addressed to "Mr. Kennedy" by Bernard Weissman. She said that Jack Ruby was very upset about this article and, undoubtedly it bothered him a great deal, not only on that day but for the next two or three days. He called Weissman an "SOB" and also said that the newspaper was completely wrong in accepting the ad. She advised that he told her he had called the "Times Herald" newspaper in Dallas, and they had advised him that they had turned down and refused to accept the same advertisement. He was very commendable in his statement regarding that paper's refusing the advertisement.

Mrs. Grant stated that he was most upset that the ad was addressed to Mr. Kennedy and thought it should have been addressed to the Honorable President if it had to be in the paper. She stated that he came to her apartment that day and had the ad from his own paper and took the ad from her paper. She said she understood both copies of this ad were found in Ruby's automobile after his arrest by the Dallas Police Officers. She stated that Jack Ruby told her that he had contacted the paper which ran the advertisement and asked them, "Where in the hell do you get off taking an ad like that? Are you money hungry?" She said that Ruby felt it was a rotten thing for any person to question the way the President was running this country. She said that Ruby made a statement regarding the advertisement and regarding Weissman, whose name appeared at the bottom of the ad, that "If that guy is a Jew, they ought to whack the hell out of him." By that, she advised, since Ruby is a Jew, he felt that this reflected against the Jewish race.

She advised that Ruby told her that he went to the Post Office in downtown Dallas and looked at the box, which box number appears in the advertisement. He told her that the box was full of mail. According to Mrs. GRANT, after he told her this, he made the statement, "I bet Weissman is a Communist," or words to that effect.

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Mr. Jack Ruby advised on November 25, 1963, that he was upset over an advertisement by one Bernard Weissman in the "Dallas Morning News" newspaper of November 22, 1963, criticizing President Kennedy. Ruby said he was proud of the fact that he was a Jew and was ashamed that anyone named Weissman would criticize the President.

During the course of the investigation in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald, no information has been developed to indicate that any meeting occurred in Jack L. Ruby's Carousel Club that was attended by Bernard Weissman, Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit and Ruby.

CHARACTERIZATION

"NATIONAL GUARDIAN"

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of December 1, 1961, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

"National Guardian

1. 'established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly * * *. Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.' (Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the ROSENBERGS and MORTON SOBELL, August 25, 1956, p. 12.)"