

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. TOLSON

144

DATE: 10/22/63

FROM : A. H. Belmont

cc Mr. Belmont
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Evans
 Mr. McGowan
 Mr. DeLoach

SUBJECT: SHOOTING OF THE PRESIDENT

Tolson
 Belmont
 Mohr
 Casper
 Callahan
 Conrad
 DeLoach
 Evans
 Gale
 Rosen
 Sullivan
 Tavel
 Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Holmes
 Gandy

Handwritten signatures and initials:
 McGowan
 [Other illegible signatures]

JOHN F. KENNEDY

At 2:20 p.m. I talked with SAC Shanklin at Dallas relative to the shooting of the President. He stated that, from the information available as of that time, it appears the President has died of his wounds and that Governor Connolly of Texas is in fair condition. He said that, contrary to prior reports that a Secret Service man had been killed, this now appears to be untrue.

I told Shanklin that the Director's specific instructions on this are that we should offer all possible assistance to the Secret Service and to the local police, and that meant just exactly that--that we should give all possible assistance. I told him the question of jurisdiction is not pertinent at this time; that while, of course, Secret Service will regard this as their primary matter, the essential thing is that we offer and give all possible assistance.

I told him there was a report that some spent shells had been found, and he should check and see whether Secret Service wants us to send Laboratory men down to assist.

Shanklin said that an offer of assistance had already been made, and that he had men with the Secret Service, with the Police Department, and with the Sheriff's Office, and as a matter of fact had a man at the hospital where Mrs. Kennedy is. He said that the alleged spot where the shooting took place was from the fifth floor of a five-story building on the corner of Elm and Commerce Streets, and that reportedly a Winchester rifle was used. He said the building is roped off and Secret Service and the police are going through the building. He said reportedly one man had been arrested by the Sheriff's Office but there is nothing definite.

I told Shanklin that if there is no significant information right now, regarding who did this, we will send out a teletype to all offices to check and account for the whereabouts of members of hate groups in their areas. He advised no one has been identified as yet.

REC 30 62-109060-99

I told Shanklin that if there is a need for any additional manpower he should advise us at once and it will be provided.

AHB:CSH (7)

Enclosure

78 NOV 29 1963

Handwritten initials: 6-1-R

Mr. Tolson

number 115

Shanklin called back at 2:40 p.m. to advise that a police officer was shot and killed by a rifle shot in the 500 block of East 10th Street in Dallas, and this is in the same area as the building where the other shots allegedly were fired. The police have cornered an individual who they feel may have been responsible for the shootings. Shanklin will advise further.

The attached teletype has been prepared, alerting all offices to immediately contact all informants and sources regarding this shooting and to immediately establish the whereabouts of bombing suspects, Klan and hate group members, racial extremists, and any other individuals who on the basis of information in the files might have been involved.

RECOMMENDATION:

If the individual who the police have cornered in Dallas is not the individual responsible for this shooting, it is recommended this teletype go out to all offices at once.

sent 11/22

ADDENDUM:

Shanklin called at 2:55 p.m. to advise that the police have captured the man who is believed to have shot the policeman and the police think he may be the man who killed the President. They are on their way to the PD and Shanklin will report as soon as he gets the facts.

OK.