

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 26 1963

TELETYPE

REC-50

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

URGENT 11-25-63 11-32 PM VBR

TO DIRECTOR
SACS, DALLAS AND CINCINNATI

FROM SAC, HOUSTON : 62-2115 4P

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, NOVEMBER
TWENTYTWO LAST, DALLAS, TEXAS. OO DALLAS.

RE HOUSTON TELETYPE EARLIER TODAY CONCERNING TELEPHONE
CONVERSATION EVENING OF NOVEMBER TWENTYFOUR LAST BETWEEN
EUGENE O'DOHERTY
GENE O'DOHERTY AT COLUMBUS, OHIO AND JACK W. PAYTON,
HOUSTON, TEXAS.

PAYTON CAME TO HOUSTON OFFICE EVENING OF NOVEMBER
TWENTYFIVE INSTANT AND READILY SUBMITTED TO VOLUNTARY
INTERVIEW. PAYTON ACKNOWLEDGED RECENT MEMBERSHIP IN AUSTIN
ANTI DASH COMMUNISM LEAGUE, JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY AND SIMILAR
CONSERVATIVE GROUPS AND LIKEWISE STATED HE WAS ACTIVE IN
STATE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN IN NINETEEN SIXTYTWO ON BEHALF OF
GENERAL EDWIN A. WALKER FOR GOVERNOR OF TEXAS.

END END PAGE ONE

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REC'D COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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62-107760-848

PAGE TWO

PAYTON STATED HE STRONGLY OPPOSED CURRENT AND PAST FEDERAL ADMINISTRATIONS AND WAS ACTIVE IN DISTRIBUTING LITERATURE AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES BUT EMPHATICALLY STATED HE OPPOSED ALL VIOLENCE, SINCERELY REGRETTED ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INFORMATION WHICH COULD REMOTELY BEAR ON PERSONS INVOLVED IN ASSASSINATION.

WHEN QUESTIONED RE ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH PERSONS OUTSIDE HOUSTON OF RECENT ASSASSINATION, PAYTON RECALLED LENGTHY TELEPHONE CONVERSATION EVENING OF NOVEMBER TWENTYFOUR LAST WITH GENE O/DOHERTY IN OHIO. PAYTON IS PHOTOGRAPHER AND EUGENE O/DOHERTY WORKED FOR HIM IN AUSTIN, TEXAS FOR SHORT PERIOD ABOUT ONE YEAR AGO. HE ORIGINALLY CONTACTED O/DOHERTY TO SOLICIT HIS ASSISTANCE DURING CHRISTMAS RUSH IN PHOTOGRAPHY BUSINESS AND O/DOHERTY CALLED PAYTON BACK EVENING OF NOVEMBER TWENTYFOUR LAST TO DECLINE EMPLOYMENT OFFER.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

PAYTON STATED HE COULD RECALL DISCUSSING ASSASSINATION IN GENERAL TERMS WITH O/DOHERTY BUT COULD NOT RECALL EXACT

STATEMENTS MADE BY EITHER. [INTERVIEWING AGENTS, WITHOUT

Specifically so stating, implied that O/Doherty had been
SPECIFICALLY SO STATING, IMPLIED

TALKING OPENLY IN OHIO ABOUT CONVERSATION WITH PAYTON] WHEN

CONFRONTED WITH STATEMENT QUOTE ITS A GOOD THING THEY GOT

HIM BEFORE WE WERE IMPLICATED ENQUOTE, PAYTON STATED HE

PROBABLY MADE SUCH A STATEMENT AND IF SO, HE SIMPLY MEANT

THAT APPREHENSION OF LEE OSWALD HAD KEPT WHAT HE CONSIDERED

THE QUOTE LIBERAL ELEMENTS ENQUOTE FROM TRYING TO PLACE

BLAME ON JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. PAYTON STATED ANY REFERENCE

HE MADE TO GROUPS WAS INTENDED TO REFER TO THE JOHN BIRCH

SOCIETY. WITH RESPECT TO ANY STATEMENT REGARDING OVER THROW

OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON, PAYTON STATED SUCH REMARK DID NOT

SUGGEST PHYSICAL OPPOSITION, BUT MERELY DEFEATING THE

DEMOCRATIC PARTY AT THE BALLOT BOX.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

PAYTON AT FIRST DENIED ANY MENTION OF JACK RUBIN OR JACK RUBY BUT LATER STATED THIS NAME WAS UNDOUBTEDLY MENTIONED. PAYTON DENIED ANY ACQUAINTANCE WITH RUBY AND VOLUNTEERED THAT GENERAL WALKER WAS HIS ONLY ACQUAINTANCE IN DALLAS, TEXAS. PAYTON STATED HE HAD NEVER HEARD ANYONE ASSOCIATED WITH JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY DISCUSS ANY PLANS FOR, AGREEMENT WITH, OR SCHEME FOR FINANCING ANY ASSASSINATION OR VIOLENCE AGAINST ANY ELECTED OFFICIAL.

PAYTON WAS OBSERVED TO BE A RATHER MEEK AND RETIRING PERSON, WHO READILY DISCUSSED ANY SUBJECT AND APPEARED TO BE SINCERE IN HIS EXPLANATIONS OF CONVERSATION WITH O'DOHERTY.

END AND ACK

~~42-42-333 NEED CORR PLS~~

~~PAGE THREE LINE FOUR PLS RPT IT~~

~~SPECIFICALLY SO STATING, IMPLIED THXXX THAT O'DOHERTY HAD BEEN~~

12-42 AM OK FBI WA HFL

CI 12-44 AM OK FBI CI THK

DL ADV SEP TU CLR

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