

1 - Mr. Palmer; 1 - Mr. Evans; 1 - Mr. Rosen; 1 - Mr. Branigan;

The Attorney General

December 10, 1963

Director, FBI

ASSASSINATION OF  
PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

REC'D-READ  
DEC 10 9 59 AM '63

A highly critical full-page ad costing \$1,465 appeared in the "Dallas Morning News" on the morning of November 22, 1963, entitled "Welcome, Mr. Kennedy to Dallas." This ad was signed by the American Fact Finding Committee, Bernard Weissman, Chairman, P. O. Box 1792, Dallas 21, Texas. This article brought great public indignation and prompted several newspaper articles as well as inquiry to this Bureau from Congressman Bernard F. Grabowski who described this ad as "vicious, cruel and one which employed the type of verbiage which tends to incite fanatics." This ad was in the form of a questionnaire to President Kennedy listing twelve questions concerning principally foreign policy matters.

An interview on December 3, 1963, with Larrie Henry Schmidt, who was born July 6, 1935, has revealed that this ad was prepared by Schmidt, a Dallas, Texas, insurance salesman, and by Joseph P. Grinnan, a Dallas independent oil man, who are both members of the John Birch Society. The money for this ad, according to Schmidt, was solicited by Grinnan from half a dozen prominent Dallas businessmen. Schmidt further advised that Bernard Weissman, the signer of the ad, is a friend of his whom he met while in the United States Army. It was decided to use Weissman's name on the ad for the purpose of counteracting charges of anti-Semitism which had been directed against the "conservatives." The American Fact Finding Committee was simply a name selected by Schmidt for use in the ad and he advised there is no such organization. Schmidt, who described himself as a "conservative," felt no demonstration should be given to a President, but felt some type of activity should indicate disapproval of President Kennedy's policies. Schmidt denied any organization backed this ad. Schmidt has been identified as a close friend of Warren Carroll, a writer for "Lifeline," an enterprise controlled by H. L. Hunt, a wealthy Dallas oil man.

Texas

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COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

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TELETYPE UNIT

The Attorney General

Texas

An interview on December 5, 1963, of William Milton Burley, who was born July 17, 1935, indicated he and Weissman arrived in Dallas on November 3, 1963, and obtained local employment. Both served in the United States Army with Schmidt and were recently separated. He stated Weissman signed the ad because he and Burley would receive business support from Dallas businessmen if he did so. Burley advised subject matter from ad was taken from a brochure of the John Birch Society which listed approximately fifty questions and from these questions twelve were eventually chosen. Bernard Weissman, born on November 1, 1937, was interviewed on December 5, 1963, and substantiated the above information furnished by Schmidt. TEXAS

Our investigation did not indicate any relationship between the placement of the above ad with Lee Harvey Oswald or Jack Ruby. No further investigation is being conducted in this matter.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

NOTE: Memo 12-6-63 Branigan to Sullivan entitled "Lee Harvey Oswald, IS - R," was prepared and forwarded and a teletype dated 12-7-63, was attached to this memo instructing seven offices to immediately discontinue.