

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 12/6/63

FROM : SAC, Indianapolis (62-1686) (P)

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 22, 1963

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	

Re EP letter to Director, 12/2/63, enclosing for the Bureau a copy of the November 27 - December 6, 1963 issue of the "Indiana Herald," which on Page 1 contains an editorial entitled, "Was FBI at Fault in Kennedy Assassination."

The "Indiana Herald" is a Negro weekly newspaper published at Indianapolis, Indiana, by OPAL L. TANDY, which has a limited circulation. It is a sensational-type paper which was started in about 1960 in competition with the more responsible colored newspaper, "The Indianapolis Recorder," which has been published in Indianapolis for many years.

The Indianapolis Office does not subscribe to the "Indiana Herald," and no one brought this particular issue to the attention of the Indianapolis Division, and no comment concerning it has been made to this office. The Bureau is aware of the background of OPAL L. TANDY and is referred to Indianapolis teletype to the Bureau, 10/21/57, entitled, "O. L. TANDY, NATIONAL NEGRO DETECTIVE, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, RESEARCH, CRIME RECORDS"; IP letter dated 12/6/57 with the same title; IP letter to Director, 10/6/57, entitled, "JACQUE WALTER DURHAM, was., ANTI-RACKETEERING"; IP letter to Director, 1/21/47 entitled, "OPAL TANDY, [REDACTED] INDIANAPOLIS FIELD DIVISION."

For the information of Dallas and El Paso, OPAL TANDY first came to the attention of the Indianapolis Office in the early 1940's when he was a reporter for "The Indianapolis Recorder," at which time he wrote numerous inflammatory articles regarding the racial situation, and in the issue of 5/15/43, in speaking of the execution of American fliers who were captured

- ② - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Dallas (Info) (RM)
- 1 - El Paso (89-52) (Info) (RM)
- 2 - Indianapolis (lcc - 80-884)

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and killed after their bombing of Japan, he stated that this condemnation of the Japanese was very odd as the U. S. Government and the FBI do nothing with reference to prosecuting those involved in lynching of Negroes in the South. After entering the U. S. Army in May, 1943, TANDY continued to contribute articles to "The Indianapolis Recorder," complaining of discrimination against Negro soldiers in the U. S. Army. After his return from military service, TANDY worked as a police reporter for the "Indiana Herald-Times," a Negro weekly newspaper no longer in existence; for awhile was publisher of the now defunct Negro newspaper, "The Indianapolis Record"; has attempted to start a Negro magazine entitled, "The National Negro Detective," and more recently began his own newspaper, the "Indiana Herald."



TANDY, according to responsible Negro police officers of the Indianapolis PD, has at times used his various newspapers to shake down colored gambling establishments in Indianapolis, securing payoffs to prevent his publishing information concerning gambling. A confidential security informant also advised in 1959 that TANDY for a price was printing handbills for the Nation of Islam group in Indianapolis. He is alleged to be quite friendly with [redacted] the largest numbers operator in Indianapolis, and with [redacted] a former Indianapolis colored policeman who has been engaged in prostitution for a number of years. Both of these individuals are former Top Hoodlums of the Indianapolis Office. In 1958 TANDY attempted to obtain information from this office concerning its investigation of [redacted]

As mentioned above, the "Indiana Herald" has limited circulation and is not even read by the more responsible colored element in Indianapolis. TANDY is a sensational-type journalist who will not hesitate to publish lies and unfounded rumors in an attempt to sell his paper. He is not deemed worthy of comment, and the Indianapolis Office recommends that no notice of this scurrilous, lying editorial be taken by the Bureau as TANDY would undoubtedly attempt to play to his own advantage any communications received from the FBI in connection with this editorial.

Handwritten notes:
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with the
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