

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

DEC 4 1963

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URGENT 12-3-63 11-06 PM CST LJH

TO DIRECTOR, SACS, EL PASO, BALTIMORE, CHARLOTTE, NEW YORK

FROM SAC, DALLAS 89-43

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS, NOV. TWENTYTWO SIXTYTHREE, AFO.

RE TEL. CALLS TO MR. BRANNIGAN AT BUREAU, DEC. TWO AND THREE SIXTYTHREE, CONCERNING BERNARD WEISSMAN, CHAIRMAN, THE AMERICAN FACT FINDING COMMITTEE.

DALLAS MORNING NEWS ON MORNING OF NOV. TWENTYTWO SIXTYTHREE CARRIED FULL PAGE AD. ENTITLED QUOTE WELCOME MR: KENNEDY TO DALLAS UNQUOTE, AND AT BOTTOM APPEARED THE NAME QUOTE THE AMERICAN FACT FINDING COMMITTEE, BERNARD WEISSMAN, CHAIRMAN. P. O. BOX ONE SEVEN NINE TWO, DALLAS TWENTYONE, TEX. UNQUOTE. THE ARTICLE WAS IN THE FORM OF A PUBLIC QUESTIONNAIRE TO PRES. KENNEDY LISTING TWELVE QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO NUMEROUS MATTERS COMMANDING ANSWERS FROM MR. KENNEDY, QUESTIONS CONCERNING PRINCIPALLY FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS.

INVESTIGATION HAS DISCLOSED BERNARD WEISSMAN AND ONE WILLIAM M. BURLEY APPEARED IN DALLAS IN EARLY NOV., SIXTYTHREE.

THEY ANSWERED AD AND BECAME EMPLOYED BY CARPET ENGINEERS OF
END PAGE ONE

58 DEC 20 1963

LX-102

REC-53 1947

25 DEC 18 RELAYED TO NY

orig & cc. Sullivan

Handwritten signatures and initials:
J.P. [unclear]
B. Brannigan

Handwritten notes:
all pages
REC-53 P. 3

PAGE TWO

DALLAS AS SALESMEN AND RENTED APARTMENT AT FOUR SIX ONE EIGHT REIGER, DALLAS. WEISSMAN OPENLY ADMITTED AT PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT THAT HE HAD INSERTED ABOVE AD IN NEWSPAPER ON MORNING PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS TO ARRIVE IN DALLAS. SUBSEQUENT TO PRESIDENT-S ASSASSINATION WEISSMAN AND BURLEY FAILED TO RETURN TO EMPLOYMENT TELLING SALES MANAGER OF THAT FIRM ON NOV. TWENTYSIX LAST THAT SORRY HAD PLACED AD. INVESTIGATION HAS SHOWN NO INDICATION PERSONS CONNECTED WITH PLACING AD IN PAPER HAVE ANY AFFILIATION WITH LEE HARVEY OSWALD OR JACK RUBY. WEISSMAN AND BURLEY MOVED OUT OF DALLAS APT. NOV. TWENTYSEVEN LAST STATING FORWARD MAIL TO GEN. DEL., NYC. LEFT IN FIFTYSEVEN FORD AUTO., NY LIC. WH TWO EIGHT ONE FIVE. APT. MANAGER ADVISED LETTER RECEIVED THERE DEC. ONE LAST, ADDRESSED TO BURLEY BEARING RETURN ADDRESS, EIGHT SIX THREE TWO LAWSON, NO. TWO, EL PASO, TEX., WHICH BEING FORWARDED TO GEN. DEL., NYC.

ONE SOURCE ADVISED THAT ONE LARRIE H. SCHMIDT IS FRIEND OF WEISSMAN AND BURLSY AND WOULD KNOW CONSIDERABLE ABOUT THEM. THAT SOURCE STATED SCHMIDT IS ALSO FRIEND OF WARREN CARROLL, A WRITER FOR QUOTE LIFELINE UNQUOTE, AN ENTERPRISE CONTROLLED BY

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PAGE THREE

H. L. HUNT, WEALTHY OILMAN, DALLAS. THIS SOURCE ALSO ADVISED BURLEY OPENED ACCT. REPUBLIC NAT. BANK, DALLAS, NOV. TWELVE LAST, WITH FIFTY DOLLAR CHECK DRAWN ON WILLIAM M. BURLEY, BOX FOURTEEN THIRTYFIVE, GREENSBORO, N. C., PAYABLE TO WILLIAM M. BURLEY. ENDORSEMENT IN SAME NAME BUT ENDORSED SIGNATURE IS DIFFERENT FROM WRITING ON FACE OF CHECK. BURLEY LISTED MARYLAND TRUST CO., HIGHLAND TOWN BRANCH. BALTIMORE, MD., AS REFERENCE. DALLAS BANK RECEIVED LETTER NOV. TWENTYTWO LAST FROM MARYLAND NATIONAL BANK, BALTIMORE, MD., STATING BURLEY HAD SATISFACTORY CHECKING ACCOUNT THERE JULY, NINETEEN SIXTY, TO APR., NINETEEN SIXTYTWO. WEISSMAN ACCOMPANIED BURLEY WHEN BURLEY OPENED DALLAS BANK ACCOUNT.

~~LARRIE HENRY SCHMIDT~~
LARRIE HENRY SCHMIDT, AN ADMITTED MEMBER OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, FIVE SEVEN THREE FIVE GASTON, DALLAS, INSURANCE SALESMAN, ON DEC. THREE INST. ADVISED BERNARD WEISSMAN AND WILLIAM BURLEY ARE FRIENDS OF HIS, ALL HAVING SERVED TOGETHER IN U. S. ARMY AT MUNICH, GERMANY, IN SIXTYTWO, ALL ARE NOW DISCHARGED FROM ARMY. SCHMIDT ARRIVED DALLAS OCT., SIXTYTWO, AND SAID WEISSMAN AND BURLEY ARRIVED DALLAS AROUND FIRST OF NOV. WEISSMAN

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PAGE FOUR

SEPARATED FROM WIFE AND APPARENTLY SEEKING NEW LOCATION. ABOUT TIME WEISSMAN ARRIVED DALLAS, SCHMIDT CONCEIVED IDEA OF PLACING AD IN NEWSPAPER PERTAINING TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY-S VISIT TO DALLAS. HE REFERRED TO DALLAS TIMES HERALD ARTICLE, OCT. TWENTYSEVEN LAST, WHICH REFERRED TO A DEMONSTRATION AT DALLAS WHEN UNITED NATIONS AMBASSADOR ADLAI STEVENSON WAS IN DALLAS RECENTLY. ARTICLE IDENTIFIED SCHMIDT AS LEADER OF FOURTEEN COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO WERE DEMONSTRATING OPPOSITION TO STEVENSON AND THE UN. SCHMIDT DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS QUOTE CONSERVATIVE QUNQUOTE AND FELT NO DEMONSTRATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO A PRESIDENT, BUT HE FELT SOME TYPE OF ACTIVITY SHOULD INDICATE DISAPPROVAL OF KENNEDY-S POLICIES. HE DECIDED NEWSPAPER AD SHOULD BE UTILIZED AND FIRST CONSIDERED PLACING HIS OWN NAME IN AD. HE WROTE ADVERTISEMENT IN HIS APT. ASSISTED SOME BY JOSEPH P. GRINNAN, ^{4 6 4} FOUR SIX FOUR ZERO SOUTHERN, DALLAS, AN INDEPENDENT OILMAN, WHOM HE SAID IS ALSO A MEMBER OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. GRINNAN SOLICITED FUNDS FROM PROMINENT DALLAS BUSINESSMEN AND COST OF AD, FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTYTHREE DOLLARS, WAS CONTRIBUTED BY FIVE OR SIX PROMINENT BUSINESSMEN OF DALLAS WHOSE NAMES HE SAID HE DOES NOT

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KNCW . DENIED ANY ORGANIZATION BACKED THIS AD AND SAID HEADLED ONLY AS INDIVIDUALS. WEISSMAN-S NAME WAS PLACED IN AD WITH WEISSMAN-S PERMISSION FOR PURPOSE OF COUNTERACTING ANTI DASH SEMITISM CHARGES WHICH HAD BEEN DIRECTED AGAINST CONSERVATIVES. THE AMERICAN FACT FINDING COMMITTEE WAS SAID TO BE SIMPLY A NAME SELECTED BY HIM FOR USE IN AD AND THERE IS NO SUCH ORGANIZATION. HE SAID WEISSMAN AND BURLEY PRESENTLY IN EL PASO, TEX., VISITING BURLEY-S BROTHER, FIRST NAME UNK.

WEISSMAN BORN NOV. ONE THIRTYSEVEN, FIVE FT. ELEVEN AND HALF, ONE FIFTYFOUR LBS., BLACK HAIR THIN IN FRONT, WHITE MALE, PERMANENT ADDRESS, FOUR THREE NINE S. COLUMBUS AVE., MT. VERNON. N. Y. BURLEY BORN JULY SEVENTEEN THIRTYFIVE, FIVE FT. ELEVEN, ONE SEVENTY LBS., HAIR BLACK THINNING, BLACK HORN RIMMED GLASSES, MEDIUM COMPLEXION, WHITE MALE, PERMANENT ADDRESS SEVEN TWENTYFOUR E. MOREHEAD, CHARLOTTE, N. C., ALSO HAS RESIDED BALTIMORE.

CHARLOTTE, BALTIMORE AND NEW YORK. CHECK INDICES CONCERNING WEISSMAN AND BURLEY.

EL PASO, WILL LOCATE AND INTERVIEW IMMEDIATELY. WEISSMAN AND BURLEY, UACB. BELIEVE THEY COULD BE LOCATED AT EIGHT SIX THREE TWO LAWSON, NO. TWO, EL PASO.

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PAGE SIX

DALLAS WILL HOLD INTERVIEW WITH JOSEPH P. GRINNAN IN
ABEYANCE UNTIL AFTER RECEIPT OF RESULTS OF INTERVIEW OF WEISSMAN
AND BURLEY AT WHICH TIME RECOMMENDATION WILL BE MADE AS TO ANY
FURTHER INVESTIGATION.

END

WA FOR RELAY WA---12-28 AM OK FBI WA JGE FOR RELAY

BA---12-29 AM PXX OK FBI BA BPN

CE---12-28 AM OK FBI CE HM

EP---10-28 PM OK FBI EP RAR

T U DISC.

CC-MR. SULLIVAN