

DEC 1963
TELETYPE

REC 37

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
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Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

URGENT 12-4-63 5-11 PM MST JPM
TO DIRECTOR, SAC/S CHARLOTTE, CALLAS, DENVER, BALTIMORE, NEW YORK
AND TAMPA

NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FROM SAC, EL PASO /89-52/ 9 PAGES
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, ET AL, AFO.

RE TEL CALLS TO MR. BRANNIGAN AT BUREAU, DEC. TWO AND THREE
LAST, CONCERNING BERNARD WEISSMAN, CHAIRMAN, THE AMERICAN FACT
FINDING COMMITTEE AND DALLAS TEL TO DIRECTOR DECEMBER THREE LAST,
ELEVEN ZERO SIX PM.

RE DALLAS TEL STATES THAT DL MORNING NEWS ON MORNING NOVEMBER
TWENTY-TWO LAST 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 TWENTY-ONE, 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 PRINCIPAL-
LY FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS.

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5-11-63
PLAYED TO NY

William Miller

PAGE TWO

B 7-17-1935

N.Y.

INVESTIGATION HAS DISCLOSED BERNARD WEISSMAN AND ONE WILLIAM M. BURLEY APPEARED IN DALLAS IN EARLY NOV., SIXTY-THREE. THEY ANSWERED AD AND BECAME EMPLOYED BY CARPET ENGINEERS OF 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. TWENTY-SIX 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. TWENTY-SEVEN LAST STATING FORWARD MAIL TO GEN. DEL., NYC. LEFT IN FIFTY-SEVEN 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.

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PAGE THREE

ONE SOURCE ADVISED THAT ONE LARRIE H. SCHMIDT IS FRIEND OF WEISSMAN AND BURLEY 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 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 THIRTY-FIVE, 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 NO. TWENTY-TWO LAST FROM MARYLAND NATIONAL BANK, BALTIMORE, MD., STATING BURLEY HAD SATISFACTORY CHECKING ACCOUNT THERE JULY, NINETEEN SIXTY, TO APRIL, NINETEEN SIXTY-TWO. WEISSMAN ACCOMPANIED BURLEY WHEN BURLEY OPENED DALLAS BANK ACCOUNT.

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

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PAGE FOUR

ARE FRIENDS OF HIS, ALL HAVING SERVED TOGETHER IN U. S. ARMY AT MUNICH, GERMANY, IN SIXTY-TWO, ALL ARE NOW DISCHARGED FROM ARMY. SCHMIDE ARRIVED DALLAS OCT., SIXTY-TWO, AND SAID WEISSMAN AND BURLEY ARRIVED DALLAS AROUND FIRST OF NOV. WEISSMAN 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. TWENTY-SEVEN 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 UNQUOTE 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, FOUR SIX FOUR ZERO SOUTHERN, DALLAS, 4 6 11

PAGE FOUR END

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10-27-62

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PAGE FIVE

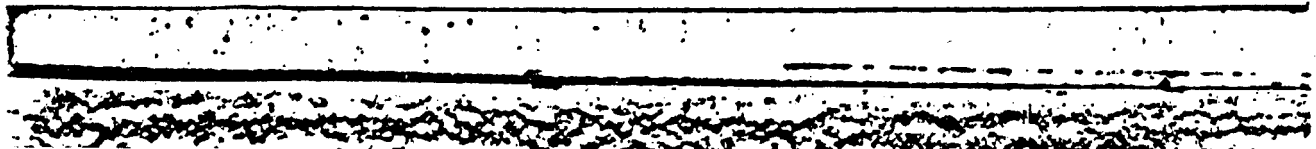
AN INDEPENDENT OILMAN, WHOM HE SAID IS ALSO A MEMBER OF JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. GRINNAN SOLICITED FUNDS FROM PROMINENT DALLAS BUSINESSMEN AND COST OF AD, FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE DOLLARS, WAS CONTRIBUTED BY FIVE OR SIX PROMINENT BUSINESSMEN OF DALLAS WHOSE NAMES HE SAID HE DOES NOT KNOW. DENIED ANY ORGANIZATION BACKED THIS AD AND SAID HANDLED 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.

¹¹⁻¹⁻³⁷
WEISSMAN BORN NOV. ONE, THIRTY-SEVEN, FIVE FT., ELEVEN AND ONE-HALF, ONE FIFTY-FOUR LBS., BLACK HAIR THIN IN FRONT, WHITE MALE, PERMANENT ADDRESS, FOUR THREE NINE S. COLUMBUS AVE., MT. VERNON, N. Y. BURLEY BORN JULY SEVENTEEN THIRTY-FIVE, FIVE FT. ELEVEN, ONE SEVENTY LBS., HAIR BLACK THINNING, BLACK HORN RIMMED GLASSES, MEDIUM COMPLEXION, WHITE MALE, PERMANENT ADDRESS SEVEN TWENTY-FOUR E. MOREHEAD, CHARLOTTE, N. C., ALSO WHAS RESIDED BALTIMORE.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] TEXAS, ADVISED SAS DAVID J. REID AND FREDERICK A. JOHNS THIS DATE AS FOLLOWS-- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MENTIONED ABOVE, HAS NOT SEEN WILLIAM FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS / KNEW NOTHING ABOUT FOLLOWING INFO UNTIL RECEIPT OF LETTERS FROM WILLIAM ON ABOUT NOVEMBER TWENTY-TWO LAST AND WEEK FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION. IN LETTER DATED NOVEMBER NINETEEN LAST, WILLIAM STATED HE MET BERNIE WEISSMAN AND LARRY SCHMIDT WHILE SERVING WITH THEM IN U. S. ARMY IN GERMANY / THEY FORMED A CONSERVATIVE GROUP WHICH HAD AS MANY AS FIFTEEN MEMBERS AND FORMULATED PLANS TO RE-GROUP IN DALLAS UPON RETURN TO CIVILIAN LIFE. SOME MEMBERS OF GROUP NOT SUFFICIENTLY INTERESTED AND DROPPED OUT. AFTER DISCHARGE, WILLIAM CONTACTED BERNIE PAREN WEISSMAN END PAREN IN NEW YORK AND WHILE THERE THE STEVENSON INCIDENT IN CALLAS TOOK PLACE. LARRY PAREN SCHMIDT END PAREN CALLED US AND QUOTE WE LEARNED THAT EXCEPT FOR THE PHYSICAL VIOLENCE UPON STEVENSON/S PERSON HE HAD ENGINEERED THE PROTEST. THINGS WERE MOVING FAST AND HE NEEDED OUR HELP END QUOTE. UPON ARRIVING IN DALLAS, WILLIAM STATED QUOTE FIRST WE REORGANIZED OUR THOUGHTS AND PLANS TO COINCIDE WITH OUR SMALLER GROUP THEN BEGAN MEETING THE ACTIVE CONSERVATIVES IN DALLAS. WE HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO ON THIS SCORE BECAUSE WE ARE NOT IN THEIR

END PAGE SIX

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COMPLETE CONFIDENCE YET UNQUOTE. WILLIAM THEN TOLD ABOUT GETTING CARPE SELLING JOB. IN STATING WHY HE GOT INVOLVED GROUP, WILLIAM STATED QUOTE I DON-T KNOW IF THERE IS A SIMPLE ANSWER EXCEPT THAT DURING THOSE MONTHS OF VIRTUAL CONFINEMENT I INFORMED MYSELF AND CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT WE ARE GRADUALLY BEING LEAD INTO A STATE OF SOCIALISM. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS GOTTEN ITS FINGER INTO DAMN NEAR EVERYTHING EDUCATION, MEDICINE, LABOR, BUSINESS ETC. UNQUOTE. WILLIAM THEN CALLED BROTHER-S ATTENTION TO ARTICLE SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO LAST ISSUED OF DALLAS MORNING NEWS ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT.

IN LETTER WRITTEN SEVERAL DAYS AFTER ASSASSINATION, WILLIAM SAID HIS GROUP HAD NO CONNECTION WITH ASSASSINATION AND ADDED QUOTE IT WAS UNFORTUNATE THAT OUR AD SHOULD BE PLACED ON SUCH AN INFAMOUS DAY BUT WE COULD HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING THE EVENTS WHICH WOULD TAKE PLACE. MANY PEOPLE HERE ARE UPSET BECAUSE OF THE AD BUT NO AUTHORITIES HAVE PLACED ANY IMPORTANCE ON IT AND HAVE NOT CONTACTED US. WHAT THIS WILL DO TO THE CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING BUT PERSONALLY I THINK NOTHING WORSE COULD HAVE HAPPENED UNQUOTE.

IN FIRST LETTER, WILLIAM TOLD ABOUT HIS PLANS TO SPEND CHRISTMAS IN DENVER WITH A GIRL, ELSA, RUSSIAN BORN NATURALIZED GERMAN CITIZEN WHOM HE HAD MET IN GERMANY AND WHO HAD GONE TO DENVER TO STUDY. ELSA WAS REPORTEDLY LIVING WITH HER COUSIN WHILE COMPLETING EDUCATION.

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ELSA-S GOAL WAS TO BECOME AMERICAN TEACHER SO SHE COULD TEACH IN ARMY DEPT. SCHOOLS IN GERMANY, HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN A LIBRARIAN AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IN ONE OF THESE SCHOOLS IN MUNICH, SPEAKS RUSSIAN, GERMAN AND ENGLISH PERFECTLY, ALSO SLIGHTLY POLISH, UKRAINIAN, SLOVAKIAN AND FRENCH.

IN SECOND LETTER, WRITTEN AFTER ASSASSINATION, WILLIAM SAID HE WOULD QUOTE PROBABLY GO TO DENVER IN A FEW DAYS UNQUOTE.

[REDACTED] FURNISHED FOLLOWING NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF RELATIVES COLON MRS. MARY BURLEY, SEVEN ⁷ TWO ² FOUR ⁴ EAST MOREHEAD STREET, APT. THREE, CHARLOTTE, NC, MOTHER, MRS. B. P. HORNE, ONE FIVE THREE ⁵ THREE ³ BELVIDERE STREET, CHARLOTTE, N.C., SISTER, MRS. J. C. OLIVE, THREE ³ FOUR ⁴ ZERO ⁰ SIX ⁶ CALLOWAY DRIVE, ORLANDO, FLORIDA, SISTER.

DENVER IMMEDIATELY ATTEMPT TO LOCATE WILLIAM BURLEY AND BERNARD WEISSMAN THROUGH GIRLFRIEND ELSA MENTIONED ABOVE AND INTERVIEW THEM, UACB.

CHARLOTTE AND TAMPS IMMEDIATELY ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE WHEREABOUTS OF WILLIAM BURLEY THROUGH RELATIVES MENTIONED ABOVE.

END PAGE EIGHT

PAGE NINE

RE DALLAS TEL STATED DALLAS HOLDING INTERVIEW WITH JOSEPH P. GRINNAN IN ABEYANCE UNTIL AFTER RECEIPT OF RESULTS OF INTERVIEWS OF BURLEY AND WEISSMAN.

BALTIMORE AND NEW YORK INCLUDED FOR INTO.

FOR INFO ALL OFFICES, [REDACTED] INSTRUCTED FACT THAT HE FURNISHED ABOVE MENTIONED LETTERS TO FBI SHOULD NOT REPEAT SHOULD NOT BE CALLED TO ATTENTION OF WILLIAM BURLEY OR HIS ASSOCIATES UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

REPORT FOLLOWS THIS DATE.

END AND ACK PLS

WA 7-43 PM OK FBI WA LLD FOR RELAY

CE 7-43 PM OK FBI CE JCM

DL 6-44 PM OK FBI DL DEC

DN 5-44 PM MST OK FBI DN TFH

BA 7-45 PM OK FBI BA TRC

TP 7-45 PM OK FBI TP JDF

TNX MUCH AND CLEAR