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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

December 11, 1963

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

[REDACTED]
DAVID ACTON NASH;
CHARLES DAVID WRIGHT, Jr.;
GORDON R. STRASENBURGH, Jr.

Atlanta [REDACTED] on November 24, 1963, advised the Atlanta FBI Office that at approximately 9:28 P.M., on November 24, 1963, a collect telephone call was placed from an Atlanta pay telephone station, to an unnamed individual at Edmond, Oklahoma, telephone number 405-754-3094.

[REDACTED] advised during the above telephone conversation the unknown individual was heard to state, in effect, "Hell, man, I have already killed the President." Further comments were made during this conversation relative to the fact that important leaders would be in Washington on the day of the funeral, and now would be the time to act.

A review of the current Edmond, Oklahoma Telephone Directory, shows telephone number 405-PL4-3094 is listed to David A. Nash, residing at 425 E. 8th Street.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of any kind. It is the property of the FBI, and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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DAVID ACTON NASH, ETAL

Dave

X [redacted] *at 7:30*
David Acton Nash was interviewed at his residence,
426 E. Eight Street, Edmond, Oklahoma, by Special Agents of
the FBI on November 25, 1963. *NC B-1-22-1963 Chicago*

During the course of this interview Nash advised as follows:

Nash spent the entire evening of November 24, 1963, at his residence with his wife, Carol Lorraine Nash. In further substantiation of his presence at home is the fact he received a collect telephone call at approximately 9:30 P.M., from a former U. S. Army buddy, Charles David Wright, Jr., aka "Skipper." Wright resides in Apartment 2, 278 14th Street, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia. Wright does not have a telephone in his residence therefore Nash is of opinion Wright probably placed the call to him from a public telephone in Atlanta. *CA NC B. app. 1978*

The primary purpose of Wright's call to Nash on the evening of November 24, 1963, in Nash's opinion, appeared to be Wright's desire to comment on the loss of President Kennedy to this nation and to determine if Nash shared Wright's worries as concerns the gathering of so many of the Chiefs of State in Washington, D. C. for President Kennedy's funeral. Wright considered this gathering to present a risk from the standpoint it would be an ideal time for the enemies of the Western world to make a bombing attack on Washington. Wright so strongly considered this possibility to be a danger, he was considering leaving Atlanta in the early morning of November 25, 1963, and spending the day in the mountains in the northern part of Georgia for safety reasons.

Wright was either seriously concerned over what he considered to be a danger or had been drinking intoxicants and was merely expressing concern over a situation he felt did possess some danger, in Nash's opinion. Nash was unable to fully resolve in his own mind just how seriously Wright did envisage the danger of a bombing attack. He therefore expressed appropriate remarks agreeing with Wright in the interest of "humoring a friend."

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Wright had placed a paid long distance telephone call to Nash about midnight on the day President Kennedy was assassinated, November 22, 1963. The purpose of Wright's call was to express his unhappiness to Nash on the loss of President Kennedy to this nation. Nash advised they were both very fond of President Kennedy.

Wright did not indicate in any way during these telephone conversations, he had any knowledge of the assassination except what he received from the regular news media. Wright in no way indicated he had any advance knowledge the assassination was to take place. Nash considers Wright's entire reaction to the assassination is the same as he himself feels, which is the same as is being expressed by most of the people of our nation, the feeling of deep sorrow and regret that such a horrible thing had occurred.

STRA Gordon R. Strassenburgh, Jr., a mutual friend of Wright and Nash, was with Wright on the occasion of the above two telephone calls. Nash spoke briefly to Strassenburgh during these calls but conversed mainly with Wright. GA

Nash corresponds with a few of his former army buddies including Charles David Wright, Jr., Gordon R. Strassenburgh, Jr., and Sgt. Charles B. Skinner and he has occasional telephonic contact with Wright. RA

N.C. Nash considers the above named friends to be very brilliant persons given to serious consideration of world affairs. He considered these friends to be excellent persons; very patriotic and dedicated Americans. According to Nash, they were all excellent soldiers while in the U. S. Army. Wright had been chosen as "Soldier of the Month" on one or more occasions at Ft. Bragg and Nash also had been given that honor on one occasion. Wright's father, Charles David Wright, Sr., is the regional representative for the American Air Filter Company in Atlanta.

While in the U. S. Army Nash, Wright, Wright's wife "Patti" and Strassenburgh had briefly discussed, on one or more occasions, the possibility of forming a society or group. These discussions were

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based on their serious thinking and the formation of a group was discussed in the light of "getting away from it all," i.e., the lighter thoughts and non-serious thinking of many persons with whom they were acquainted. Nash explained the proposed society they discussed and which never did reach fruition, would not have been anti-government in any way as these were persons all loyal to the U. S. Government.

According to Nash, neither he nor any of these friends had any interest in or respect for the Nazi-type organization or any other group or organization which might be considered un-American or inimical to the best interests of the United States.

Nash voluntarily made available to interviewing agents two letters and mailing envelopes addressed to him. The first letter is from Strasenburgh, and is dated October 31. The mailing envelope bears postmark of November 4, 1963, at Atlanta and reflects return address of "232 12th St., NE, Apt 4 Atlanta 9, Ga."

This letter reads as follows:

"Oct 31
232 12th St, NE
Atlanta 9
Apt 4"

"Greetings, old ghost,

"What an evening it has been. I have bribed the first twosome of goblins, after being frankly startled when finding them at the door. I hope this assures that I shan't be bothered by the more galling ghosts of the past.

"Enough. It's now the first. Happy news for me. I'm now in standby reserve (should that be captalized?). I'm not going to school. My present job is essentially carpentry, at

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Warren Co, where Skipper works, and it's not a bad way to make a living, if one must use his hands. I have a reasonable efficiency apartment very close to downtown Atlanta. I have met a couple of people, and have plans to further expand my horizons. That is, I am well but hope to get better.

"I hope you join me in crossed fingers re the coup in Viet Nam. I understand we also sponsored one in the Dominican Republic which didn't make it, but even the attempt is heartening, as long as it doesn't turn out to be another of those all or nothing shames. I refer to Cuba, and find that this aspect of the fiasco really is the worst. To discuss this it needs more than beer, and I look forward to having you to discuss with.

"One thing that can be written though, if you will, is a short explanation, or at least a definite no to 'single side band can't be DFed.' Perhaps it should be a definite yes. In other words, can it?

"Skipper and Patti remain together, I suppose in 'marital bliss.' Patti is due within the month, and no medical problems have arisen so far.

"My great love cools, of necessity, and cools slowly. That is the sum, or difference, if you like. Bonnie wrote me a note about two weeks ago, and I may go and see her next spring.

"How did Carol do in summer school, and how did you do? A little news, a few words to reassure me that you still exist, would be welcome.

"Skipper relays that he feels just as you did last spring, which is meant to be a cryptic message.

"Granted, a poor letter, but still wishing you and Carol are well, and the manerie flourishes."

/s/ "Stras"

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[REDACTED]

In regard to the fourth paragraph in the above letter, Nash explained he and Strassenburgh are licensed amateur radio operators and his inquiry dealt with this interest in regard to use of direction finding (DF) equipment to locate transmitters.

The second letter and mailing envelope furnished by Nash consisted of a two page typewritten letter dated June 6, 1963, to Nash from Sgt. Skinner. The mailing envelope bears postmark dated June 5, 1963, of the Army Air Force Postal Service #34 with return address of "Sgt. C R Skinner, RA 14658543, Hq. Btry, 1st Bn 2d Arty, APO 34, New York, N. Y."

This letter reads as follows:

"Headquarters Battery
1st Battalion 2d Artillery
APO 34, New York, N Y
5 June 1963"

"Dear Dave,

"I find myself with nothing to do (during duty hours) on this, the day before the Day, and so I think I'll write you at last. My outfit is in the field--I had to stay back because I'm on the 3th Div Arty Materiel Readiness Inspection Team, inspecting radio equipment--tearing them up.

"I'm pretty well on the road to OCS. I wrote to some of the companies that I owe money to and asked them to let me have an eight-month break on my payments. Believe it or not, one of them said yes and one of them said maybe. What I really need to do now is get rid of the bills I inherited from Patti. I'm writing her again (please mail for me) asking for what she owes me. If I can get her to take the damn sewing machine company payments up again and start paying me for the telephone bill she ran up, I'll be hanging in there. Losing the jump pay hurt a lot, but bonds and soldier's deposits will get me there if I can get this break.

"The Special Forces Group in Panama is the 8th, not 5th.

"I completed subcourses C7 Wire Communication Equipment and G8 Tactical Carrier Equipment from the Signal School and I'm starting on C10-- Elements of Radio Communication. Got an

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[REDACTED]
"excellent" on C7 and a "superior" on C8. C10 is hard for me because it's all theory, my weak area. When I finish C10 and C11, Field Radio Techniques, I'll have enough promotion points for 1st Lt in the Signal Corps (a lot of good it does me now.) I'm after a SigC commission, and a branch transfer is a little bit easier to get if you have completed work in that field. Anyway, it's good to be studying again. I'm also hitting the Ed Center now, and as soon as I get a transcript of my old college credits I start on U of Maryland courses.

"That's what I do off duty. On duty I made battalion radio chief (E5 slot) and right now I'm still reorganizing. My main enjoyment in life is installing AN/UIC-1's and FM sets (arty band) in APC's, none of which run. I'm still short 13 AN/VRC-9's, and I've been assured that by the time we get them, the 8th Division will be getting AN/VRC-12, 43-49 series. (The 3rd Division already has them.) I figure, along the same line that we'll be getting AR-15 rifles by then.

"The army has stopped production on M-14's, for some reason. I think we'll call that jewel "Ike's Rifle" in years to come. Ike ordered them and wouldn't pay for them. JFK made the payments and issued them out (Ike didn't buy any ammo, either). But when they get a year old they aren't worth a damn. Now what do we do?

"It has also come to light that the M151 $\frac{1}{2}$ -ton truck isn't worth the cost of transporting it to the junkyard. They also wear out in a year. Then wrap them in nylon raincoats and throw them away. Come to think of it, Ike bought them, too, didn't he?

"Anyway, somebody finally figured that it takes a 3 kw generator to run an AN/GRC-46, so the ROAD TOE's (E series) call for them. Also a .5 kw for every radio-- every VRC-9 and VRQ-2--why? Because the M151 will not power a radio for any length of time.

"There are a few things wrong. But
[REDACTED]

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"Our new battalion [redacted] British major, from the Royal Artillery of the Army of the Rhine. He will be with us for a year.

"The new SP 105 is a m-----r (monster). More on it later.

"The ROAD rifle squad. Dig:

"ROCID"

Sq Ldr	--	XXXXX	M1
Tm Ldr	--	M1	
AR Man	--	BAR	
Rflman	--	M1	
Rifman	--	M1	
TW Ldr	--	M1	
AR Man	--	BAR	
Rflman	--	M1	
Rflman	--	M1	
Rflman	--	M1	(Frenadier)

"ROAD"

Sq Ldr	--	M14
Rflman	--	M14 (Asst SL)
Grenr	--	M79 & .45
Grenr	--	M79 & .45
MGr	--	M60 & .45
Rflman	--	M14
Rflman	--	M14
Rflman	--	M14
Rflman	--	M14
AR Man	--	M14 (modified)

"and that's pretty heavy for a squad, ain't it?

"Well, I've got to go to work (if you'll pardon the expression More later. When I'm in the mood. My love to Carol. Write soon."

/s/ "Randall"

"P.S. A famous Oklahoma citizen's wife blessed him with Melvin Scott Tom on 17 May. Son looks just like Dad."

/s/ "R"

"Nash explained the above letter contained much technical details because Sgt. Skinner knew of his intense interest in soldering and that Sgt. Skinner is an excellent soldier with great interest in that subject matter. He stated he and his friends mentioned herein had often discussed what might be considered "toy soldiering."

"Accompanying the above letter was a two page handwritten letter from Sgt. Skinner to Nash which reads as follows:

[redacted]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Tuesday 16 July 63

"Dear Dave,

"Please forward this letter to my
ex. Thank_.

"I've got a million things to write
about, but I'm heading for the field right
now. Late.

"Write soon.

"Always,

/s/ "Randall"

"Interesting things about ROAD - Recon platoon
of 1st Abn Bn 508th Inf has 6 M-60 tanks.

"81st Abn Arty has 2 prime movers for
each gun - a 3/4 & a 2 1/2.

"12th Engineer Bn has 14 M60 tanks in
each company.

"16th Arty has an engineer platoon in the
8 inch battery.

"Oh - I saw Ferdinand Thomas, radio chief
of 1st 509th the other day. He told me he
heard Calhoun got busted.

"That's all I can think of."

Concerning the above letter Nash explained he forwards
letters to Skinner's former wife, Patricia "Patti" Wright (presently
married to Charles David Wright, Jr.), as Sgt. Skinner does not
want his former wife to have his current address. He said Patti
is divorced from Egt. Skinner and married Wright sometime after
February, 1953.

Nash explained he, Wright and Strassenburgh were all
three Sergeants E-5 in A Company, 50th Signal Battalion, 18th

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Airborne Corps, Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, while in the U. S. Army. Sgt. Skinner was also stationed at Ft. Bragg during this period. Sgt. Skinner is still in the U. S. Army but is stationed in Germany at this time.

Nash furnished the following additional background and descriptive information concerning Charles David Wright, Jr.:

Residence address: Apartment 2, 278 14th St., N.E.
Atlanta 9, Georgia
Wife: Patricia "Patti" Wright,
same address; formerly was
Patricia Skinner; former wife
Bonnie Wright, 424 Mohawk St.,
Louisville 9, Kentucky.
Father: Charles David Wright, Sr.,
916 Stovall Blvd., N. E.,
Atlanta 19, Georgia.
Military Service: Honorable discharge from U. S.
Army, approximately June, 1962.
Age: 25 years.
Race: Caucasian
Height: 5' 10"
Weight: 160 lbs.
Hair: Brown, cut short
Build: Medium - slender
Occupation: Student, Georgia Tech. in
2nd or 3rd year; employed part-time
by Warren Company, Atlanta, Ga.

Nash furnished the following additional background and descriptive data concerning Gordon R. Strassenburgh, Jr.:

Residence address: 232 12th Street, N. E., Apartment 4,
Atlanta 9, Georgia.
Occupation: Carpentry work at Warren Company,
Atlanta, Georgia.
Military Service: Honorable discharge from U. S.
Army approximately January, 1963.

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Race: [REDACTED] Caucasian
Age: [REDACTED] 25
Height: 5' 8"
Weight: 175 lbs.
Hair: Dark - probably cut short.

Nash furnished the following additional background and identifying information concerning himself:

Mailing address: Post Office Box 202, Edmond, Oklahoma.
Race: Caucasian
Born: 1-22-38, at Chickasha, Oklahoma
Height: 5' 9 1/2"
Weight: 165 lbs.
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Blond, cut short
Scars & marks: Cut scar across nose between eyes.
Military Service: Honorable discharge from U. S. Army; served 9-16-53 to 6-8-62; ASN RA 25687306.
Marital status: Married to Carol Lorraine Nash, nee Cagle.
Occupation: Electronics Technician for SMS Electronics, 15 N. Littler, Edmond, Oklahoma, and student at Central State College.
Parents: Father: Mel Achilles Nash, 313 E. 1st Street, Edmond, Oklahoma. Mother: Mae Clarke Nash. Father is former President of the Oklahoma College for Women, Chickasha, Oklahoma, and is retired from position of Chancellor of Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.
Brothers: Capt. Norman C. Nash, age 45, stationed at Norfolk, Virginia, in

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[REDACTED] the U. S. Navy.
[REDACTED] Nash, age 39,
Engineer with the Tulsa Water
Project, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
Mary Jane Montgomery (Mrs. Henry
H. Montgomery) age 42, Purcell,
Oklahoma.

Sister:

The files of the Edmond, Oklahoma Police Department were
checked on November 24, 1963, for information concerning David
Acton Nash. These records disclosed he had been arrested twice for
minor traffic violations, in 1955 and 1957.



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Title DAVID ACTON NASH;
CHARLES DAVID WRIGHT, Jr.;
GORDON R. STRASENBURGH, Jr.

Character

Reference Oklahoma City memoranda dated
12-11-63.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

Atlanta [redacted] is a respected businessman who is in a position to furnish reliable information.