



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Denver, Colorado

January 30, 1964

RE: MIKE MILTON VINICH

Information has been received alleging that one Mike Vinich, Jackson, Wyoming, during conversation in June, 1963, stated that he served aboard PT boat 109 with former President John F. Kennedy and remarked, "too bad he's going to be shot."

<sup>D.C.</sup>  
Mike Milton Vinich, 1835 Mariposa Boulevard, Executive Director, Wyoming State Employment Security Commission, Department of Labor, advised that he recalled during February, 1963, while attending a Department of Labor conference in Washington, D. C., in connection with his employment, he stayed at the Houston Hotel in Washington, D. C., and recalled that one evening, he, Ed Reeder, <sup>D.</sup> Executive Director, Montana State Employment Security Commission, Helena, Montana; William Bailey of the Regional Office, Colorado State Employment Security Commission, Denver, Colorado; and possibly others had a dinner party at the Ascot Restaurant in Washington. Vinich stated that during the evening, everyone was drinking and talking politics and general issues as well as relating personal experiences. Vinich stated that he told the party of his experiences as a Platoon Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps and specifically about the time the former President John F. Kennedy rescued himself and other Marines from Choiesul (phonetic) Island located in the Solomon Islands. He stated that it is obvious that he did not tell anyone he was serving on a PT boat inasmuch as he was in the United States Marine Corps. Vinich stated that during this evening, he exhibited a tie clasp in the shape of a PT boat given to him by the late President, and in general, expressed his great admiration for the President and his policies.

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Vinich stated that sometime during the evening, the group was joined by a female opera singer who was entertaining at the Ascot Restaurant and he vaguely recalls talking to her about the scenery in and around the Teton Mountain Range in Wyoming and possibly made comments to her concerning the Civil Rights program as it pertained to the Democratic Party. Vinich stated that he had never made any statement to anyone that the former President would be shot, and that it was ridiculous and fantastic to attribute any such remark to him.

Vinich pointed out that he is personally acquainted with Ted Kennedy, United States Senator; Robert Kennedy, United States Attorney General; and Byron White, United States Supreme Court Justice, and if he had any information whatsoever pertaining to the welfare of the President of the United States, he certainly would make this information available to the proper authorities without delay.

Vinich reiterated that he had absolutely no information pertaining to the assassination of the former President and that he has never made any remarks to anyone that could possibly lead them to believe he had any information of this type. Vinich stated that he attended the last National Democratic Convention as a delegate from Wyoming, and therefore, considers himself closer to the President and the Democratic Party than the average American and, therefore, if possible, the assassination of John F. Kennedy was even a greater shock to him than it would be to the average man on the street.

Vinich emphatically stated that he had no direct nor indirect knowledge regarding the assassination except the knowledge that was available to the general public through news media.

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