

5-12-64

airtel

To: SAC, Philadelphia (105-9958)

From: Director, FBI (62-109060) — 3087

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY  
11-22-63, DALLAS, TEXAS  
MISC. - INFO CONCERNING

Re Bureau phone call 5-10-64 concerning Harry Harold Knable, Harrisburger Hotel, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

For your additional information Harry Harold Knable, 902 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, telephonically contacted the Bureau on 5-9-64 on two occasions. In substance, Knable stated he was preparing an "Open Letter to America" relative to the assassination of the late President Kennedy. According to Knable, in this letter he will allege the late President was assassinated by Jack Ruby, a communist and twin brother of "Bobby Baker" who operated a vending machine business. Ruby, according to Knable, was acquainted with Lee Oswald and supplied Oswald with money to buy the assassination weapon; Knable further related Ruby actually fired the shots which killed the late President and later attempted to kill Oswald before the latter was apprehended by the Dallas Police Department.

MAILED 4  
MAY 12 1964  
COMM-FBI

Bureau files disclose Knable has contacted the Bureau on a number of occasions furnishing nonspecific information. In 1947 he claimed he alone broke up a Nazi Ring during the war and that he was the only man that ever "beat up" Al Capone.

Bureau files also contain the following information pertaining to individuals who may be identical with Knable. See your file 56-43 re "Election Irregularities in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania." Page 1, your report 10-22-42, indicates Harry Knable was a complainant in that matter. "The Sunday Bulletin" newspaper, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, issue of 11-2-47, contained an item

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

1 - R. D. Rogge  
1 - J. R. Malley  
1 - 62-109090 (President's Commission)

JFC:jma  
(7)

(SEE NOTE PAGE TWO)

MAY 22 1964

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten notes and signatures, including "MAY 15" and "MAY 20 1964".

Airtel to Philadelphia  
Re: Harry Harold Knable

entitled, "Hecklers Shout At Speakers 'Go Back to Russia.'" This article contained a reference to Harry Knable, Commander of the Purple Heart for the Philadelphia area. The "Daily Worker," issue of 11-3-47, contained an item on page 2 entitled, "Fascists Led Attack on PCA Rally in Philly" and datelined Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In this article Harry Knable is described as a "notorious Republican ward heeler and pay-off man in the Twentieth Ward, the city's red-light district."

Also see your file 55-0 re "Harry Knable, 5313 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Secret Service Matter." Your letter 4-24-58 indicates information received by your office disclosed Harry Knable desired to mail a gift to President Eisenhower. Your letter also disclosed Knable was known to the Philadelphia Office of the U. S. Secret Service. (58-2017, 44-593-4x, 100-338892-258, 62-0-58142)

Unless already accomplished, thoroughly interview Knable concerning the allegations made in his call to the Bureau and make an effort to obtain a copy of the alleged "Open Letter to America." Submit results of investigation to Dallas in appropriate insert form, 25 copies for Dallas and 1 copy for Bureau. Also, you should check your indices and furnish any readily available information relating to Knable's mental competency so that this matter can be appropriately evaluated by any outside agency.

NOTE: For full details, see memorandum Cleveland to Evans dated 5-11-64, JFC:bjj:jad, captioned Harry Harold Knable, 902 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Information Concerning. After calling the Bureau on 5-9-64, Knable again called on 5-10-64 from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, stating he had a letter, the contents of which he felt the Bureau should have. In re telephone call to Philadelphia of 5-10-64, the Philadelphia Office was instructed to have the Resident Agent in Harrisburg handle the matter and submit the results to the Bureau.

The information furnished by Knable on 5-9-64 has been furnished separately to Secret Service who advised Knable is well known to them and they regard him as a confidence man who appears to be a mental case who has tried, without success, to see all Presidents since Truman.

Although it appears he is suffering from some mental instability, in view of his allegations, it is felt we must make reasonable efforts to check this matter out. When results are furnished, they will be appropriately reported by Dallas and disseminated to the President's Commission in line with other similar complaints.