

American Embassy
Paris 8, France

Date: April 27, 1964
To: Director, FBI
From: Legat, Paris (100-1793) (P)

Subject: THOMAS GITTINGS BUCHANAN, JR.
SM - C
Bufile 100-354341
Paris 100-1793

~~ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT~~
~~JOHN F. KENNEDY~~
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
Bufile 62-109060
Paris 62-148

Re Paris letter 4/21/64.

The French press in Paris recently devoted considerable attention to a picture of LEE HARVEY OSWALD holding a rifle which photograph, according to rumors, had been doctored to give the impression that the rifle in question was the murder weapon of President Kennedy. As samples of the press treatment of this matter the following three articles are enclosed for the Bureau:

1. A clipping from the "New York Herald Tribune" edition of April 23, 1964 which summarizes the comments of the French press.

3 - Bureau (ENCLS: 3) (1 - Liaison)
(1 - Baltimore, [100-12596])
(1 - Dallas)
(1 - Washington Field, [100-19194])
2 - Paris [100-1793] (62-148)

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2. An article by THOMAS BUCHANAN which appeared in "L'Express" of April 23, 1964. In his article BUCHANAN mentions that the second photograph wherein the rifle does have a telescopic sight was purchased by "Life" magazine from JAMES MARTIN, who is the business agent of Mrs. MARINA OSWALD, and who is allegedly a former FBI agent. BUCHANAN points out that a similar photograph subsequently published by "Newsweek" magazine and believed to be identical with the "Life" picture shows the rifle without a telescopic sight. BUCHANAN states that "Life" magazine has made no comment concerning the discrepancy in the two photographs and that "Newsweek" was awaiting a reply from their headquarters.

3. A full page article in "Le Nouveau Candido" issue of April 23 - 29, 1964 which also deals with the two photographs. In commenting on the photograph with a telescopic sight published by "Life" one CLAUDE HEILLASOUX in an article appearing in "Analyses and Documents," edited by the Center for Socialist Studies, is quoted as saying "it appears that out of a desire to prove too much the FBI has once again committed an error to its disadvantage. It is probable that the FBI thought that they alone were in possession of the photograph and, therefore, would be able to doctor it without risk."

The translation of these articles is being left to the discretion of the Bureau since the extent to which this matter has been discussed in the American press is not known to this office.

We will continue to follow this matter closely and report promptly to the Bureau any information of possible interest.