



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
September 18, 1964

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

I. PREDICATION

On September 15, 1964, Mr. Howard P. Willens of the President's Commission requested interview of Mrs. Shirley Martin of Hominy, Oklahoma, concerning a telegram which she had directed to Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel of the President's Commission, a telegram which reads as follows:

"We have testimony from assassination witness concerning strange time sequence of shots. Use of Italian rifle negated by this testimony and by testimony of Zapruder."

II. RESULTS OF INTERVIEW

Mrs. Mark E. (Shirley) Martin was interviewed at her residence north of Hominy, Oklahoma, on September 17, 1964, by two Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mrs. Martin's telegram to the President's Commission was acknowledged and read to her upon her request. She denied that this was the wording she had used in her telegram and stated she had sent a telegram to the Commission expressing her hope that the report by this "Blue Ribbon" Commission would include the testimony regarding the strange sequence of shots and the fact that the use of an Italian rifle is negated by this testimony and by the testimony of Zapruder. She refused to furnish any information in amplification of her telegram stating that the FBI does not have the authority to ask her questions concerning this matter. She further stated, "A citizen does not have to answer questions asked by the FBI if he does not feel emotionally oriented to do so."

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ENCLOSURE

Mrs. Martin stated that if the President's Commission desires to know of any information which she may have in her possession, the Commission should subpoena her to Washington, D. C., for her testimony under oath.

She stated she would continue to await replies from the President's Commission itself regarding her wires.

Mrs. Martin stated she does not have any information which the President's Commission presumably does not already have. She only hoped that the President's Commission would publish their entire findings.

III. CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING INTERVIEW -- CONDUCT AND Demeanor OF MRS. SHIRLEY MARTIN

The following information may be of interest to the President's Commission.

The Special Agents arrived at the home of Mrs. Martin at approximately 5:26 P.M., after reaching her on the telephone to make an appointment. On the telephone she had said, "Why don't you come right on out?" Mrs. Martin and a daughter were standing in her front door as Agents approached the gate to the wire-type Cyclone fence surrounding her house. However, she made no motion and spoke no word to assure some five barking, growling dogs in her yard. In evident amusement, Mrs. Martin stepped from her house as the Agents, who had ignored the dogs, approached. She announced, "Well, you have passed the first test. You are the first people who have not shown fear of my dogs."

Mrs. Martin invited one Agent to sit on the divan, and she requested the other Agent to sit in her "Kennedy rocker, provided you have no aversion to doing so." Immediately she requested one of her daughters to turn on the TV for a specific

National news program. When the commentator appeared on the television screen, Mrs. Martin remarked, "Don't you think he is cute?" During the interview, Mrs. Martin darted about the room and constantly disrupted the interview with irrelevant and disconnected questions and statements, including the following:

"I have an excellent roast in the oven. It's too bad you can't stay for dinner," though not extending an invitation.

"Did the President's Commission pay for your lunch?"

Throughout the interview, Mrs. Martin referred to the President's Commission as "that blue ribbon Warren Commission," and complained that the Commission has not acknowledged any of her many communications except for one letter from a member of the Commission, which letter she said was discourteous.

Mrs. Martin asked Agents if they read certain out-of-state publications which she exhibited on her coffee table, and she wanted to know the Agents' opinions of these publications.

Mrs. Martin was not personally abusive as she had been to a Special Agent during a previous interview, but since she made it clear that she intended to furnish no information and in view of the fact that she was openly derisive and sarcastic of the President's Commission, particularly in her inferences that the Commission would not have the integrity to publish its entire findings, the interview was politely terminated after approximately ten minutes.