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URGENT 11-13-64 RM
 TO DIRECTOR, NEW YORK, NEWARK, CINCINNATI AND DALLAS
 NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON - ENCODED
 FROM PHILADELPHIA 120300

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY NOVEMBER 22, 1963.
 OO: DALLAS.

RE PH PHONE CALL TO BUREAU, NOVEMBER 12 INSTANT.

PH [REDACTED] TWENTY-FIVE YEAR
 OLD, NEGRO OF [REDACTED] FURNISHED THE INFO
 SET OUT BELOW TO SAS THOMAS F. HANNIGAN AND C. HEBER
 SMITH, OF THE ALLENTOWN RA, ON NOVEMBER 12 INSTANT.
 HAS FBI NUMBER [REDACTED] AND IS INCARCERATED IN [REDACTED]
 COUNTY PRISON, [REDACTED] PA., HAVING BEEN ARRESTED [REDACTED]
 1964. [HE] WAS SENTENCED TO FOUR TO EIGHT YEARS FOR BURGLARY
 AND LARCENY AND IS SOON TO BE TRANSFERRED TO [REDACTED]
 PENITENTIARY, [REDACTED] [HE] FINISHED ELEVEN YEARS OF SCHOOL
 AND SERVED IN THE U. S. ARMY. [REDACTED] HAS FURNISHED SOME
 INFO IN PAST ABOUT BURGLARIES IN PH AND VICINITY, WHICH HAS
 BEEN VERIFIED, BUT SUFFICIENT CONTACT HAS NOT BEEN HAD WITH
 HIM TO DETERMINE HIS RELIABILITY. REC-40 621 3894
 [HE] ADVISED THAT THERE IS AN ORGANIZED GANG COMPRISED
 OF INDIVIDUALS FROM MASSACHUSETTS TO OHIO AND SOUTH TO
 DELAWARE AND MARYLAND. LEADERS OF THIS GANG USUALLY MEET
 ON MONDAYS IN NEW YORK CITY AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF
 7TH AVENUE AND 125TH STREET. THEY MEET ON EITHER SECOND
 OR THIRD FLOOR OVER A WHITE TOWER OR WHITE PALACE LUNCHEONETTE.
 ENTRANCE IS FROM 7TH AVENUE SIDE AT REAR OF RESTAURANT.

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ENTRANCE TO MEETING PLACE IS THE SAME AS TO DADDY GRACE TABERNACLE ON 7TH AVENUE.

ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THIS GANG WAS BILLY DE LOATCH, FBI NUMBER 4390133, WHO RESIDED AT 5909 CARPENTER STREET, AND WHO FORMERLY OPERATED A TAILOR SHOP AT 501 NEWTON AVENUE, CAMDEN, N. J., AS A FRONT FOR STOLEN MERCHANDISE. HE HAD TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION IN CAMDEN, N. J., AND ALLEGEDLY IN EASTERN PART OF PA.

DE LOATCH WAS SHOT IN HIS TAILOR SHOP OCTOBER 21, 1964 IN ALLEGED HOLDUP ATTEMPT AND DIED ON OCTOBER 26, 1964. INFORMANT BELIEVED DE LOATCH MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED BECAUSE OF FACTIONALISM IN GANG. INFORMANT WAS VERY CLOSE TO DE LOATCH FOR ONE YEAR AND WORKED AS BURGLAR FOR HIM.

ON ABOUT THE SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 1964, INFORMANT DROVE DE LOATCH TO NEW YORK FOR MEETING OF THIS GANG. THEY RETURNED TO CAMDEN SAME AFTERNOON. INFORMANT DID NOT ATTEND MEETING BUT OBSERVED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY WELL DRESSED MEN LEAVE THE MEETING. ABOUT TWELVE OF THEM WERE WHITE MEN AND THE REMAINDER WERE NEGROES. MEETING WAS USUALLY HELD FROM ABOUT 1 TO 3 PM.

INFORMANT WAS UNABLE TO FIX DATE BUT THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT SEPTEMBER 1, 1963 THAT (HE) WAS IN DE LOATCH'S TAILOR SHOP AT ABOUT NOON WHEN DE LOATCH MENTIONED THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS GOING TO BE KILLED.

DE LOATCH SAID THAT THIS GANG HAD LEARNED FROM A WASH D. C. SOURCE IN ABOUT MIDDLE OF AUGUST 1963 THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY HELD A CONFERENCE WITH TOP AIDES AND TALKED OF

LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ALL OUTSTANDING CURRENCY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN EXCHANGE FOR NEW CURRENCY OF A DIFFERENT COLOR. THE GANG MEMBERS HELD LARGE SUMS OF CURRENCY AND WOULD BE UNABLE TO EXCHANGE IT FOR NEW CURRENCY BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE IRS INVESTIGATION. FOR THIS

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REASON, THE GANG DECIDED TO HAVE KENNEDY KILLED. GANG LEADERS FELT THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PROPOSAL, AND THAT IF HE WERE ELIMINATED THE LEGISLATION WOULD NOT BE ENACTED. DE LOATCH SAID KENNEDY WAS OK AS LONG AS HE WAS ACTIVE IN CIVIL RIGHTS, MEDICARE, THE WAR EFFORT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND OTHER MATTERS, BUT THAT THIS CURRENCY LEGISLATION WAS GOING TOO FAR, AND THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE WOULD BE HURT IF THIS TOOK PLACE.

INFORMANT SAID THERE WERE TWO OTHER INDIVIDUALS IN TAILOR SHOP WHEN DE LOATCH MADE THESE STATEMENTS. ONE WAS A NEGRO MALE, FIRST NAME BENNIE, LAST NAME UNKNOWN, OF CAMDEN, N. J., WHO WAS A BURGLAR AND RUNNER FOR DE LOATCH AND WHO HUNG AROUND TAILOR SHOP A LOT. BENNIE DESCRIBED AS 22 OR 23, LOOKS YOUNGER, SIX FEET OR SIX FEET ONE INCH, 200 POUNDS, DARK COMPLEXION, CLEAN CUT, PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN PRISON IN NEW JERSEY AND WAS RELEASED IN 1963, BELIEVED TO BE ON N. J. STATE PAROLE AT PRESENT, SINGLE, NO SCARS OR MARKS, KNOWN TO DETECTIVE JOHN OPFER, OF CAMDEN COUNTY DETECTIVE OFFICE.

SECOND INDIVIDUAL'S NAME UNKNOWN. HE WAS EMPLOYED AS DELIVERY BOY FOR LUNCHONETTE LOCATED AT 7TH AND MOUNT VERNON STREETS, CAMDEN, N. J. HE WAS DESCRIBED AS A NEGRO MALE, 27 OR 28, FIVE FEET EIGHT INCHES, MEDIUM BUILD, DARK COMPLEXION, USUALLY POORLY DRESSED. ALSO BELIEVED KNOWN TO DETECTIVE OPFER.

INFORMANT HEARD DE LOATCH MENTION ASSASSINATION TWO OR THREE TIMES, BUT COULD NOT RECALL DETAILS OF CONVERSATION AND COULD NOT FURNISH SPECIFIC INFORMATION AS TO WHEN OR WHERE REMARKS MADE OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS PRESENT.

BEFORE KENNEDY WAS SHOT, PROBABLY IN LATE OCTOBER 1963, DE LOATCH STOPPED ONE NIGHT AT [REDACTED] PH [REDACTED] AT THE RESIDENCE OF [REDACTED] IN THEIR

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APARTMENT AT THAT TIME WERE [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] FRIENDS OF [REDACTED] [REDACTED] IS NEGRO, AGE ABOUT 32, AND [REDACTED] IS NEGRO, AGE ABOUT 25. [REDACTED] RESIDES [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] ON [REDACTED]

WHEN DE LOATCH STOPPED AT [REDACTED] APARTMENT, TV WAS ON AND PRESIDENT KENNEDY CAME ON AT A NEWS CONFERENCE ON VIDEO TAPE. DE LOATCH MADE SOME REMARK, ^{THEN} THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS TO BE KILLED SOON AND EXPLAINED THE REASON WHY. THIS WAS ONLY A CURSORY REMARK. HE SAID THAT A GANG WAS GOING TO HAVE KENNEDY KILLED, BUT HE DID NOT SAY HE WOULD HAVE A PART OF IT.

[REDACTED] THOUGHT THAT THIS GANG WAS BUSY IN THE PLANS OF THE ASSASSINATION FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO IT. [HE] THOUGHT THIS BECAUSE THERE WERE NO MAJOR CRIMES PULLED DURING THIS PERIOD BY THIS GANG.

[HE] ALSO RECALLED THAT DE LOATCH TOLD [HIM] PRIOR TO THE ASSASSINATION THAT KENNEDY HAD BEEN ON A TRIP TO VIRGINIA OR TENNESSEE AND THAT AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT HAD BEEN MADE THERE TO ASSASSINATE KENNEDY. TWO NEGRO MEN WERE HIRED TO SHOOT KENNEDY. ONE TRIED TO SHOOT THE PRESIDENT BUT HIS GUN JAMMED. NO FURTHER DETAILS.

[REDACTED] WAS ARRESTED NOVEMBER 15, 1963 IN [REDACTED] PA, AND WAS INCARCERATED UNDER \$1,000 BAIL. [HIS WIFE] AND FRIENDS TRIED TO GET DE LOATCH TO GET [HIM] OUT ON BAIL, BUT DE LOATCH WAS OUT OF TOWN. DE LOATCH DID GET [HIM] OUT ON BAIL ON NOVEMBER 29, 1963.

DE LOATCH TOLD [HIM] A FEW DAYS LATER THAT THIS GANG HAD PERPETRATED THE ASSASSINATION AND THAT HE HAD BEEN AWAY FROM PH BEGINNING NOVEMBER 15, 1963, IN THIS CONNECTION. DE LOATCH TOLD [HIM] THAT HE HAD BEEN TO NEW YORK CITY AND THEN TO COLUMBUS, OHIO. THERE WERE GANG MEMBERS FROM SEVERAL STATES MEETING IN

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COLUMBUS, OHIO, CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

DE LOATCH ALSO TOLD (HIM) THAT HE HAD WANTED TO HAVE KENNEDY KILLED IN PH, AT THE TIME OF THE APPROACHING ARMY AND NAVY FOOTBALL GAME IN 1963. THE GANG VETOED THIS PLAN AS THEY HAD A LARGE PH OPERATION WHICH COULD POSSIBLY BE JEOPARDIZED IF KENNEDY WAS KILLED IN PH AREA. THEY HAD NO OPERATION IN DALLAS TO JEOPARDIZE.

DE LOATCH TOLD [REDACTED] THAT THE GANG HAD HIRED THREE MEN IN DALLAS TO SHOOT KENNEDY, AND THAT THESE THREE MEN HAD BEEN STATIONED ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DRIVE. THE THREE MEN IN DALLAS WERE ALL WHITE MEN, SINCE NEGROES ARE IN LESS NUMBERS THERE AND MIGHT BE CONSPICUOUS. OSWALD WAS ONE OF THE THREE.

[REDACTED] SAID KENNEDY WAS SCHEDULED TO GO TO CALIF. LATER AND IF THEY HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN DALLAS, THEY WOULD HAVE TRIED AGAIN TO ASSASSINATE KENNEDY IN CALIF.

THERE WERE TWO GANG MEMBERS IN DALLAS TO GET THE ASSASSINS OUT ON BAIL IF THEY WERE ARRESTED WITH A GUN BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION. THEY WOULD GET THEM OUT ON BAIL BEFORE THEY TALKED TO ANYONE.

THE INFORMANT THOUGHT THAT THE GANG HIRED OSWALD AS ONE OF THE THREE WHITE MEN BECAUSE IT WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO CONNECT OSWALD WITH THIS GANG, AND THUS THE GANG WOULD NOT BE SUSPECTED.

[HE] HAD NO INFO AS TO IDENTITIES OF OTHER TWO MEN.

AFTER THE SHOOTING OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, [REDACTED] TOLD [REDACTED] HE SHOULD NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH DE LOATCH. SHE POINTED OUT DE LOATCH WOULD GET [REDACTED] IN TROUBLE AND TOLD [REDACTED] HE WAS VERY BAD SINCE HE HAD BEEN CONNECTED IN SOME WAY WITH SHOOTING OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

INFORMANT SAID DE LOATCH'S WIFE BESSIE WOULD PROBABLY KNOW ABOUT THIS SINCE HE CONFIDED IN HER.

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AGENTS TOLD [REDACTED] THEY DOUBTED [HIS] INFO BECAUSE OF VOLUMINOUS INVESTIGATIONS BY VARIOUS AGENCIES AND WARREN COMMISSION WHICH DEVELOPED OSWALD ACTED ALONE AND PURCHASED RIFLE THROUGH MAIL ORDER HOUSE. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO [REDACTED] THAT WHEN [HE] INITIALLY STATED GANG HAD EMPLOYED THREE WHITE MEN TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT KENNEDY IN DALLAS, NO MENTION WAS MADE OF OSWALD. IT WAS ONLY LATER WHEN AGENTS DISCUSSED THE OSWALD INVESTIGATION THAT [REDACTED] THEN STATED OSWALD WAS ONE OF THREE MEN HIRED BY GANG FOR DALLAS ASSASSINATION.

[REDACTED] EXPLAINED [HE] ASSUMED AGENTS KNEW OSWALD ONE OF THREE MEN.

[REDACTED] MENTIONED DE LOATCH HAD TOLD ABOUT SEVEN PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE GANG ABOUT ASSASSINATION PLANS, AND IT WAS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY DE LOATCH WOULD HAVE DISCUSSED SUCH A PLAN WITH ANYONE EXCEPT GANG LEADERS. [REDACTED] EXPLAINED DE LOATCH WAS VERY COCKY AND BRAZEN IN ALL OF HIS ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND WAS VERY LOOSE IN HIS TALK. [HE] SAID THAT ALL ABOVE INFO WAS DEFINITELY TRUE AND [HE] BELIEVED THIS GANG WAS BEHIND THIS ASSASSINATION AND THAT NOTHING WOULD CHANGE HIS MIND.

LEADS.

NEW YORK VERIFY DESCRIPTION AND USE, IF POSSIBLE OF BUILDING DESCRIBED AS GANG MEETING PLACE.

NEWARK ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AND INTERVIEW BENNIE (LNU) AND DELIVERY BOY WHO [REDACTED] ALLEGES HEARD DE LOATCH DESCRIBE PLAN TO KILL KENNEDY. FURNISH AVAILABLE INFORMATION RE

DE LOATCH'S GANG OPERATIONS. DE LOATCH KNOWN TO AGENTS PH AS HAVING REPUTATION AS LARGE NEGRO FENCE FOR STOLEN MERCHANDISE AND IS PLANNER OF SOME BURGLARIES, ALSO AS MONEY LENDER ASSOCIATED WITH FRANK V. ATTILIO OF CHERRY HILL, N. J., AND SOUTH PHILA WHO HAS COSA NOSTRA CONNECTIONS.

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CINCINNATI ADVISE WHETHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE OR CAN BE DEVELOPED RE GANG MEETING AT COLUMBUS, OHIO DESCRIBED BY [REDACTED]

PH WILL ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AND INTERVIEW PERSONS NAMED BY [REDACTED] AND WILL CONSIDER POLYGRAPH INTERVIEW IF PERSONS NAMED BY HIM ARE NON EXISTENT OR DENY HIS STORY.

ALL OFFICES PROTECT [REDACTED] AS SOURCE (IDENTITY OF [REDACTED])

RECEIVED: 8:48 AM HL