

FBI

Date: 12/15/64

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)

FROM: SAC, DALLAS (89-43)

*A.R. DECKE (info.)*

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT  
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,  
11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

*1 cc retained and - recorded per [unclear]*

ReButel to Dallas dated 12/11/64, regarding information telephonically received that date at Bureau from former PSI [redacted] at Dallas, Texas, regarding seventeen witnesses to assassination in hospital ward of Dallas County Jail who had never been interviewed.

On 12/14/64, Sheriff BILL DECKER, Dallas County, Dallas, advised that thorough investigation conducted at County Jail immediately subsequent to assassination and no witnesses to same located among inmates.

Chief Jailer ERNEST LLOYD HOLMAN, Dallas County Jail, Dallas, on 12/14/64, personally escorted SA RICHARD J. BURNETT through hospital section of County Jail on fifth floor where white inmates with mental history are confined. Mental inmates are kept in a large tank type cell which has one barred double window overlooking scene of assassination. View from this window would have seen President at time of being struck by assassin's bullets, but window in Texas School Book Depository Building from where shots fired is not visible from this cell area.

Hospital section for white prisoners on fifth floor also has another large cell area in northwest corner which has west windows overlooking site of President's car at time of assassination, and another window on north side of building which overlooks Texas School Book Depository Building, including window from where shots fired by assassin.

3-Bureau  
2-Dallas  
RJB/cms  
(5)

REC-114 62-109060-3932

10 DEC 19 1964

Approved: Wick  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

68 DEC 1964

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

DL 89-43

However, Chief Jailer HOLMAN advised that this large cell area is used only on weekends by persons serving their three day sentences for "Driving While Intoxicated" charges and not occupied until late on Friday nights as Texas law states any part of a day constitutes a full days credit on drunk sentences. Thus, HOLMAN noted that persons serving such DWI sentences report late on Friday nights to gain credit for one full day. HOLMAN further advised that no DWI prisoners in this particular cell at time of assassination.

It is noted that the north corner jail window (which overlooks Texas School Book Depository building and the window of the Texas School Book Depository from which assassin's shots fired) is very dirty and is backed by an iron mesh type grid guard. View from this particular window very distorted and believed by HOLMAN to be impossible to identify anyone, including the President in his car which would have been rounding the corner of Houston onto Elm Street approaching the Triple Underpass seconds before shooting.

Both Sheriff DECKER and HOLMAN pointed out that anyone who would have been confined in hospital section of fifth floor of jail at time of assassination would have been a mental case and reliability of such person would be highly questionable. HOLMAN noted that it would be a most difficult and time consuming task to at this late date attempt to determine just who was confined in hospital ward at time of assassination. Furthermore, HOLMAN pointed out that such persons, if identified, have since been either released or sent to other State mental places of incarceration.

HOLMAN and Chief Identification Officer JAMES H. KITCHING advised that [redacted] (complainant in this matter) is well known to them as a person completely unreliable who has been arrested on several occasions in the past on lunacy charges. Both stated they would place no confidence whatsoever in any information furnished by him. KITCHING pulled [redacted] arrest record and noted that [redacted] was not incarcerated in Dallas County Jail at time of assassination.

In view of the above information and observations, the Dallas Office does not contemplate pursuing this matter further, UACB.

*fully agree*  
Information contained herein and in retel will be set forth in next report submitted in captioned matter.