

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Wick

DATE: 2/27/67

1 - Mr. Rosen

1 - Inspector Jenson

1 - Mr. Sullivan

1 - J. R. Malley

1 - Mr. Raupach

1 - Mr. Branigan

1 - Mr. Lenihan

1 - Mr. Goble

Tolson	
DeLoach	
Walters	
Mohr	
Bishop	
Casper	
Callahan	
Conrad	
Felt	
Gale	
Rosen	
Sullivan	
Tavel	
Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Holmes	
Gandy	

On 2/10/67, J. W. Gallaher, a merchant seaman, advised Seattle he saw Lee Harvey Oswald in a New Orleans hotel shortly prior to the assassination. Gallaher furnished a somewhat similar but more specific story in 12/63. This was checked out and discounted at that time.

BACKGROUND:

On 2/10/67, a merchant seaman, James W. Gallaher, advised the Seattle Office that shortly prior to the assassination of President Kennedy he saw Lee Harvey Oswald in the Capitol House Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, with two other men and heard one of the other men say, "If we can't vote the man into office we want, we will vote him in with a rifle." Seattle advised Gallaher was first contacted on 2/9/67 but was too intoxicated and confused that date to be interviewed.

Bufiles reveal Gallaher advised Vice Consul William J. Boudreau, American Consulate, Hamilton, Bermuda, in 12/63 that he had overheard four men talking on either 11/10, 11 or 12/63 in the Capitol House Hotel, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and one of the men stated, "If we can't put a man in-by ballot, we'll get rid of this one with a 30-30." Gallaher, when telling this story in 12/63, made no comment that one of the four men was Lee Harvey Oswald.

Investigation was conducted at the Capitol House Hotel, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and revealed that during the period mentioned by Gallaher, a political convention was taking place in Baton Rouge. Persons interviewed in the hotel could furnish no information about anyone who had made a remark similar to that related by Gallaher and commented that such a remark could have referred to any politician. A number of persons were interviewed in the hotel and shown photographs of Oswald and all advised they had never seen the man in the hotel.

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UNRECORDED

Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan
Re: ASSASSINATION OF JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
62-109060

It is noted investigation of Oswald's activities determined he was in Irving and Dallas, Texas, from 11/8/63 through 11/12/63.

OBSERVATIONS:

Gallaher has changed his original story so that he is now stating he saw Oswald in the hotel. It is unlikely his recollection is better now than it was three years ago. Investigation at the hotel failed to uncover any information that Oswald had ever been there. It is noted the hotel is in Baton Rouge; Gallaher in his recent story placed it in New Orleans. He apparently is confused on this.

RECOMMENDATION:

No further investigation is necessary concerning Gallaher's story. For information.

Thb *Red* *Sh* *v* *11/13*
D
OK
H