

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATION SECTION

MAR 15 1967

TELETYPE

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

FBI WASH DC

FBI NEW ORLS

3:00 PM URGENT 3-15-67 GLM

TO DIRECTOR 62-109060 AND DALLAS

FROM NEW ORLEANS 89-69

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS,

TEXAS, NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION  
CONCERNING.

REMYTEL TODAY.

REC 5 EX-103

62-109060-4807

MAR 20 1967

59 MAR 24 1967

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

*Prs  
2,3,78.6*

*Sullivan  
K. A. ...  
P. ...*

*5-Subil*

*6-11*

PAGE TWO

NO 89-69

RE: PERRY RAYMOND RUSSO.

THE NEW ORLEANS STATES ITEM RED COMET EDITION FOR MARCH FIFTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, WITH DATELINE OF BATON ROUGE, CONTAINS AN ARTICLE FURNISHING FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION CONCERNING RUSSO:

*Re: May 14, 1941*  
PERRY RAYMOND RUSSO, BORN MAY FOURTEEN, NINETEEN FORTYONE AT NEW ORLEANS. THE SON OF FRANCIS RUSSO, FOUR SIX ZERO SEVEN ELYSIAN FIELDS, NEW ORLEANS. FATHER IS A MACHINIST AT CHAMPION PISTON RINGS SERVICE. RUSSO'S MOTHER DIED IN NINETEEN SIXTYTHREE.

RUSSO LEFT HOME IN NINETEEN SIXTYSIX AND MOVED TO BATON ROUGE IN SEPTEMBER, SIXTYSIX, TO TAKE POSITION OF SALESMAN FOR EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. HE WAS EARLIER EMPLOYED IN THE FINANCIAL DIVISION OF GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY. RUSSO HAS A BROTHER, EDWIN RUSSO, TWENTYEIGHT YEARS OF AGE, CURRENTLY AN ENGINEERING INSTRUCTOR AT LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY WHO, IN INTERVIEW, OBSERVED THAT HE BELIEVED HIS BROTHER WAS TELLING THE TRUTH.

*Re: May 14, 1939*  
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THE SAME EDITION OF THE STATES ITEM CONTAINS INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT STEVE DERBY RESIDES WITH PERRY RUSSO IN BATON ROUGE AND IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS BEING RUSSO'S COUSIN. DERBY IS ALSO A LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT. NO IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION, NEW ORLEANS INDICES, RE STEVE DERBY.

MICHAEL M. OGDEN, ONE NINE ONE FIVE JOSEPH STREET, NEW ORLEANS, TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE MARCH FOURTEEN, SIXTYSEVEN, TO ADVISE THAT HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH PERRY RUSSO, HAVING KNOWN HIM IN CONNECTION WITH REPUBLICAN ACTIVITIES IN NEW ORLEANS AND ALSO BECAUSE HE OGDEN, IS EMPLOYED BY THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY IN NEW ORLEANS. OGDEN STATED THAT PERRY RUSSO IS A FORMER BELLHOP, THAT RUSSO'S MOTHER DIED EARLY AND THAT RUSSO'S FATHER THREW RUSSO OUT OF THE HOUSE SOME YEARS AGO. OGDEN SAID IN HIS PERSONAL OPINION, THAT RUSSO HAS NO FIRST HAND INFORMATION IN THE GARRISON INVESTIGATION.

END PAGE THREE )

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RE: MORNING SESSION OF CLAY SHAW HEARING, MARCH FIFTEEN SIXTYSEVEN.

VVL-TV REPORTED INSTANT DATE AND AT ELEVEN FIFTYTWO A.M., REPORTERS CAME OUT OF THE ORLEANS PARISH COURT ROOM AND ADVISED THAT THE HEARING HAD JUST BEEN RECESSED FOR LUNCH AND WOULD RESUME AT ONE P.M.

THE REPORTERS ADVISED THAT THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MORNING SESSION WERE AS FOLLOWS:

AFTER THE INITIAL INTRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS FROM LOYOLA AND TULANE UNIVERSITIES, AND THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, PERTAINING TO RUSSO, CROSS EXIMINATION WAS STARTED BY THE DEFENSE.

THE DEFENSE QUESTIONING TESTED THE CREDIBILITY OF RUSSO AS A WITNESS AND ALSO DEVELOPED BACKGROUND OF RUSSO. RUSSO ADMITTED RECEIVING PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT FROM OCTOBER, NINETEEN FIFTYNINE, THROUGH LATE NINETEEN SIXTY, AND HAVING CONTACTED BY TELEPHONE, NUMEROUS DOCTORS AT LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BATON ROUGE, WHICH CONVERSATIONS HE DESCRIBED DWELLED ON "SOCIAL AND PERSONAL THINGS."

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REPORTERS ALSO ADVISED THAT SUBPOENAS WERE BEING ISSUED TO WVUE AND WDSU-TV, PRESUMABLY TO OBTAIN FILMED INTERVIEWS WITH RUSSO.

REPORTERS OBSERVED THAT RUSSO, THROUGHOUT HIS MORNING TESTIMONY, WAS VERY CAUTIOUS IN HIS ANSWERS, ASKING FOR A REPEAT OF QUESTIONS ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS AND THAT THERE WERE NO APPARENT CONTRADICTIONS IN HIS TESTIMONY AS FURNISHED BY HIM ON MARCH FOURTEEN LAST.

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ALLEGED THREATS:

*James H. Liscombe*

*R. April 1937*

THE LEAD STORY IN THE RED COMET EDITION, NEW ORLEANS STATES  
ITEM, MARCH FIFTEEN INSTANT, ADVISED THAT JAMES R. LISCOMBE, AGE  
THIRTY, SEVEN ZERO EIGHT AND ONE HALF BOURBON ST., WAS ARRESTED  
MARCH FOURTEEN LAST AND CHARGED WITH MAKING A THREATENING PHONE  
CALL. LISCOMBE ALLEGEDLY TELEPHONED ORLEANS PARISH OFFICIALS,  
SAID HE WAS BROODING AND "INTENDED TO MAKE NATIONAL HEADLINES IN  
NEW ORLEANS."

LISCOMBE IS REPORTEDLY AN EX-CON FROM MICHIGAN, NO  
IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.

THE SAME ARTICLE ADVISES THAT CRIMINAL SHERIFF LOUIS A. HEYD,  
ORLEANS PARISH, HAD ADVISED THAT THERE WERE OTHER TELEPHONE CALLS  
TO VARIOUS PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE CASE AND THAT EXTRA  
PRECAUTIONS WERE TAKEN BECAUSE OF "ANTICIPATED TROUBLE."

ANOTHER ARTICLE IN ABOVE CITED RED COMET EDITION ADVISES THAT  
A SMALL FOREIGN MADE PISTOL WAS LOCATED SUNDAY, MARCH TWELVE LAST,  
HIDDEN BEHIND THE WHEEL OF A TRUCK IN SERVICE STATION WHERE CLAY  
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SHAW AND HIS ATTORNEYS PARKED THEIR CAR TO APPEAR IN CRIMINAL COURT ON SHAW'S MURDER CONSPIRACY HEARING MARCH FOURTEEN LAST.

THE ARTICLE STATED THE GUN WAS LOADED.

SHERIFF HEYD AT IMPROMPTU TELEVISION PRESS CONFERENCE AT TWELVE FORTY P.M. INSTANT DATE IN FRONT OF CRIMINAL COURT BUILDING ADVISED THAT JAMES LISCOMBE WAS LOCATED IN CENTRAL LOCKUP, NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND THAT LISCOMBE, AS FAR AS IS KNOWN, HAS NO CONNECTION WITH THE FINDING OF THE PISTOL BEHIND THE WHEEL OF A TRUCK. HEYD STATED THAT THIS PISTOL WAS LOADED WITH FIVE ROUNDS AND WAS PRESENTLY BEING EXAMINED FOR FURTHER IDENTIFICATION.

HEYD ALSO STATED THAT HE POSSESSES NO REPORTS OF ANY THREATENING PHONE CALLS TO ANY OF THE PRINCIPALS CONNECTED WITH THE HEARING.

HEYD SAID THE PISTOL WAS LOCATED AFTER A TIP FROM AN INFORMANT WHOM HE DECLINED TO IDENTIFY.

AN ARTICLE IN THE TIMES PICAYUNE NEWSPAPER UNDER DATE OF MARCH FIFTEEN INSTANT, RELATED THAT MEMBERS OF "TRUTH AND CONSEQUENCES", AN ORGANIZATION GIVING FINANCIAL BACKING TO DISTRICT

END PAGESEVEN

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ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON'S PROBE IN CONNECTION WITH THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION, HAVE RECEIVED THREATENING PHONE CALLS. THIS INFORMATION WAS ATTRIBUTED TO JOSEPH M. RAULT, JR., AN ORGANIZER OF THE GROUP. RAULT DID NOT REVEAL HOW MANY MEMBERS HAD BEEN CALLED OR JUST WHAT THE THREATS WERE. OTHER KEY ORGANIZERS OF THE ORGANIZATION WERE IDENTIFIED AS WILLARD E. ROBERTSON AND CECIL H. SHILSTONE. THE GROUP, WHICH WAS ESTIMATED AT FIFTY, ARE REPORTEDLY WILLING TO PUT UP ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS A MONTH FOR AT LEAST THREE MONTHS.

AN INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFYING HERSELF AS MRS. SARELLA LOWTHER, <sup>3 2 2 2</sup> THREE TWO TWO TWO DUMAS STREET, SAN DIEGO, CALIF., TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED NEW ORLEANS OFFICE THE MORNING OF MARCH FIFTEEN AND ADVISED THAT "SHE HAS A STRONG BELIEF THAT JIM GARRISON, NEW ORLEANS DA, IS GOING TO BE MURDERED". MRS. LOWTHER SAID SHE HAS NOT HEARD THIS OR HEARD OF ANYTHING PERTAINING TO IT AND THIS IS ONLY HER BELIEF. MRS. LOWTHER FURTHER ADVISED SHE HAD SENT THE LATE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, AFTER THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION,

END PAGE EIGHT

*San Antonio District Attorney General Investigator of Kennedy assassination*

*I.A.*

*Snellia E. Howland*

*AV*

*h*



PAGE NINE

A TELEGRAM STATING THAT BECAUSE OF HIS NEGLIGENCE HE WOULD PROBABLY  
END UP PAYING FOR IT WITH HIS LIFE.

NO RECORD OF MRS. LOWTHER IS CONTAINED IN THE NEW ORLEANS  
INDICES OR THE SAN DIEGO INDICES. SAN DIEGO TELEPHONE DIRECTORY  
REFLECTS THERE IS A SARELLA E. LOWTHER AT THREE TWO TWO TWO DUMAS  
ST., SAN DIEGO, CALIF., TELEPHONE TWO TWO TWO DASH TWO EIGHT SEVEN  
SEVEN.

ABOVE INFORMATION RE LOWTHER FURNISHED TO DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT  
PRESLEY J. TROSCLAIR, NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN THE ABSENCE  
OF SUPERINTENDENT GIARRUSSO, AND TO SECRET SERVICE.

CORR PAGE EIGHT PAR 1 LINE 1 S NAME SHD BE CORRECTED TO READ

MRS. SARELLA LOWTHER

VA... LLD

FBI WASH DC

*C. M. J. J.*