



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
215 U. S. Post Office Building
P. O. Box 1111
Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203
April 4, 1967

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

On March 31, 1967, LEON CONNER, Arkansas State Parole Officer, Star City, Arkansas, contacted SA JAMES G. WINTERS and advised that PHILLIP WORTHEN, an inmate at the Arkansas State Penitentiary, had requested that an FBI Agent contact him.

On April 4, 1967, Capt. CLAY SMITH, Warden, Arkansas State Penitentiary, Cummins, Arkansas, advised that PHILLIP WORTHEN, Arkansas State Penitentiary #57091, was currently incarcerated in the penitentiary for parole violation. WORTHEN had originally been incarcerated in the Arkansas State Penitentiary September 7, 1965, on a charge of burglary. He was released on parole December 10, 1966, and violated parole January 29, 1967, by leaving the State of Arkansas in a stolen motor vehicle. He is currently waiting Arkansas state trial on grand larceny charge for auto theft.

WORTHEN is a white male, born November 27, 1942, at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and has FBI # 444 961E.

WORTHEN was interviewed the same date and provided the following signed statement:

"April 4, 1967
"Arkansas State Penitentiary
"Cummins, Arkansas

"My name is Phillip Worthen. I am 24
years old and I am a high school graduate. I
can read and write.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

62-10000-5009
ENCLOSURE

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"In February, 1963, I was working at the Tulane Branch of the Toddle Houses in New Orleans, Louisiana. While there I became friendly with a man and woman who came in every night for coffee. I did not know his first name but his last name was Beaudine. He was a white male, 5'9" to 5'10" tall, weighing about 170 pounds, medium build with protruding stomach, around 40 at the time, dark complexion, straight black hair cut in flat top style. He was nervous and his hands were always moving. He always wore a black suit. The woman who was supposed to be his daughter was named Lydia Beaudine. She was a white female, about 21 years old at the time, 5'4" tall, weighing 105 pounds to 110 pounds, long black hair, dark complexion and brown eyes. She was left handed.

"One night the man asked me if I wanted to make some money and, as I did, I went with him to his home somewhere in the old French Quarters of New Orleans.

"I went to his house two times but they never spoke about how I was going to make some money. On the third visit, around the middle of February, 1963, I met two other people at Beaudine's house. I do not know their names but one was a pilot and the other was a lawyer.

"The pilot was a white male, about 50 years old, with black graying hair, short and stocky build.

"The lawyer was a white male, about 35 years old, and thin. From the way he acted and the way they talked I got the impression he had been kicked out of the bar association or was a crooked lawyer.

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"On the fourth or fifth meeting Mr. Beaudine, who seemed to be the boss, told me I would get \$10,000 for my part of the job. I asked him what my job was to be and he said "back-up man." They never told me any more beyond this.

"In the last week of February I met Lee Oswald who was the same man who was accused of assassinating the President later on that year. From the conversation I got the impression he had just returned from out of town.

"Beaudine asked Oswald if the guns had come in yet. Oswald replied they had not come in yet, but said he was getting them. Oswald said he had ordered three different rifles from three different places to be sent to three different places in New Orleans.

"I had the impression that something was going to happen from the way they talked and the general atmosphere. They still had not told me what was going to happen but did ask about my skill with a rifle. I decided then I did not belong there and left New Orleans. During the time I was in New Orleans I stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Bud Capp at the St. Joseph Housing Project. I left New Orleans the last day of February, 1963, and went to Santa Monica, California. I stayed there about two weeks and then went on to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and was there about two weeks when I turned myself in at the Sheriff's Office as I had heard that Louisiana had a warrant out for me for bad checks. I was returned to Louisiana and sentenced to two years at Angola Prison. I was paroled March 17, 1964. I then returned to Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

*Oswald was
- being
D. as he
was employed
at*

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"In July, 1965, Beaudine and his daughter contacted me in Pine Bluff. They did not threaten me or anything like that ___ scared me and I left Pine Bluff and went to California. About 30 days later I returned to Arkansas and was arrested at Springdale, Arkansas, and accused of the burglary of my cousin's house. I was sentenced to three years at the Arkansas State Penitentiary.

"I was paroled December 10, 1966, to the Frizzell Farms at Star City, Arkansas. Around 1:00 AM, January 29, 1967, Beaudine and his daughter came to my house on the farm. He was driving a 1966 or 1967 black four door Mercury sedan with Louisiana plates. They wanted me to go to town with them but I refused because it was late. They said they were going into Pine Bluff and would return the next morning.

"As soon as they left I packed and took off in one of the farm trucks. I was caught in New Mexico on March 13, 1967, and returned to Arkansas as a parole violator.

"I am supplying this information because I fear for my life. Beaudine has found me twice and may find me again. I am afraid he wants to kill me for what I know. That is why I left Arkansas and broke my parole.

"I have read this statement consisting of this page and four others and have initialed each page and correction and signed it because it is true.

"/s/ Phillip Worthen

"Witness: "/s/ James G. Winters, SA, FBI, Little Rock,
4/4/67."

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Capt. CLAY SMITH, Warden, Arkansas State Penitentiary, furnished the following arrest record for WORTHEN:

September 7, 1965, to December 10, 1966,
three year sentence for burglary, Arkansas
State Penitentiary, Varner, Arkansas

July 2, 1963, to March, 1964, 2 year sentence
for overdraft, Louisiana State Penitentiary,
Angola, Louisiana.