

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan

The Attorney General

June 22, 1967

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Lenihan

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

Reference is made to our memorandum dated March 16, 1967, at Los Angeles, California, which reported information furnished to our Los Angeles Office by Mr. Lawrence Schiller, Photographer-Journalist, Bel Air, California. Mr. Schiller advised on March 16, 1967, that he had recently completed a study for "Life" magazine concerning homosexuality in the United States and, in the course of this study, developed considerable knowledge of the homosexual problem and developed many valuable and confidential sources of information within various homosexual groups throughout the United States. According to Mr. Schiller, on the basis of this knowledge and information, he was recently commissioned by "Life" magazine to conduct inquiry concerning the alleged homosexual nature of Clay L. Shaw of New Orleans.

On June 15, 1967, Mr. Schiller again contacted our Los Angeles Office and advised that he has learned that homosexuals in each major city in the United States have a code name which is used to signify that they or fellow homosexuals are in serious trouble and that assistance is required. According to Mr. Schiller, he was told that the code name used by homosexuals in New Orleans to indicate serious trouble is "Clay Bertrand."

Mr. Schiller further advised that this code name is closely held within the homosexual community and is used only in the event of extreme emergency. Mr. Schiller stated he had verified the use of the name "Clay Bertrand" as a code name to indicate serious trouble through fifteen or twenty independent and unrelated homosexual sources in New Orleans.

MAILED 2  
JUN 22 1967  
COMM-FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Attorney General**

Mr. Schiller further advised that homosexual sources in New Orleans have told him that Clay L. Shaw's best legal defense to New Orleans District Attorney Garrison's charge would be to admit that he is a homosexual and divulge that the code name "Clay Bertrand" is well known in homosexual circles in New Orleans and is not his alias.

For your information, during the course of our investigation of the assassination in New Orleans, we developed no information indicating the name "Clay Bertrand" is a code name used by homosexuals in New Orleans to indicate they are in serious trouble.

- 1 - Mr. Carl Eardley  
Acting Assistant Attorney General.
- 1 - Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General
- 1 - Mr. J. Walter Yeagley  
Assistant Attorney General

**NOTE:**

Lawrence Schiller has contacted the Los Angeles Office on various occasions to volunteer information he feels is of interest to the Bureau. He has previously reported to us a contact he had with New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison in Las Vegas, Nevada, at which time Garrison indicated he planned to interview Jim Dondson, an alleged homosexual in San Francisco, who reportedly spent the night of 11/22-23/63 with Clay Shaw in a hotel room in San Francisco. We have developed no information indicating the name "Clay Bertrand" is a code name in New Orleans to indicate a homosexual in New Orleans is in serious trouble. NBC program 6/19/67 reported NBC had located a homosexual in New Orleans who uses the name Clay Bertrand. Justice Department informed Bureau by letter dated 6/19/67 it had been informed that the homosexual located by NBC who uses the name Clay Bertrand is one Gene Davis. We are currently checking our files in an attempt to identify Davis.