



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Dallas, Texas
September 20, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

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

The September 14, 1967, issue of the "Dallas Times Herald" newspaper, Dallas, Texas, carried a front-page article concerning the possible production of a motion picture about the assassination of President Kennedy, which article is set forth as follows:

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62-109060-5762
ENCLOSURE

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

MARINA DUE \$20,000-PLUS FILM OFFER

Henry Wade's Help Sought in Making Assassination Movie

A film company which, has Dallas Dist. Atty. Henry Wade as one of its officers will offer Marina Oswald \$20,000 to play a leading role in a motion picture about the assassination of President Kennedy. The Times Herald has learned.

It also has been learned that Wade, a director in Flag-Star, Inc., a corporation formed to make the film, may receive \$20,000 for his part in the documentary and former police chief Jesse Curry may get \$7,500.

Robert Larsen, head of Robert Larsen Productions Ltd., of Colorado Springs, Colo., said the contracts with Wade, Curry, and the former wife of presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald provide that they will be paid after the movie is completed.

Dist. Atty. Wade Thursday vehemently denied he had any agreement with Larsen calling

for payment of \$20,000 or any other sum.

"He has no contract, no option, no nothing," Wade said.

THE DISTRICT attorney confirmed, however, that he had discussed the proposed movie with Larsen but "not since two days ago." He added that he and Larsen have been trying to work out a deal.

"He can have a contract today if he walks in here with \$20,000," the district attorney said. "After all, that's as much as I make in a year."

Wade denied that anything other than his own "private files" withheld from news media would be handed to Larsen.

"All the files down here are public records," he said. "These and other things in the files that I may eventually let him look at," Wade said. Asked if newsmen would be allowed to see the same material, the district attorney answered:

"The press can see anything it wants."

WADE SAID he had kept a diary during the days following the assassination and also had about 10,000 letters which he said he considered private.

Wade said the Flag-Star mentioned in news stories as making the movie "is me and Jesse Curry and Bob Benson, a private investigator." It is a shell corporation so that when a contract is signed that will be a company.

He said the corporation, Flag-Star, had an option for the movie for 90 days dating from

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page # 1A

"The Dallas
Times Herald"
Dallas, Texas

Date: 9-14-67

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title: Felix R.
McKnight

Character:

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated Dallas

last March but said this has long since expired.

"The only agreement I have with Larsen is that none of the details will be divulged until we do have a contract."

LARSEN said Thursday morning he was to meet with the former Mrs. Oswald, now Mr. Kenneth J. Porter of Richardson, and her lawyers later Thursday to work out details of the contract. Mrs. Porter is to receive an undetermined percentage of whatever the film, "Countdown in Dallas," makes.

Larsen said Thursday morning, however, that he fears Mrs. Porter may want to hike the price because of the sudden

publicity concerning the film.

He indicated that her price has continued to climb since she was first approached some weeks ago.

None of the three was available Thursday morning for comment.

ACCORDING to Larsen, the corporation which Wade serves as a director is to receive 25 per cent of the profits from the film. Financial backers, who will be needed to raise an estimated \$500,000 to make the film, would receive 50 per cent, and Larsen's production company would receive 25 per cent.

The financial details of the production company were revealed by the Los Angeles

Times following an interview with Wade and Larsen.

Larsen said Thursday that negotiations are continuing on contracts which would bring other principals in the assassination story into roles in the film. Among them are Mrs. J. D. Tippit, widow of a police officer slain by Oswald, and R. S. Truly, a ducector of the Texas School Book Depository.

WHILE LARSEN indicated that negotiations on personal contracts are progressing, there appear to be problems developing in the film company's plans to use certain locations.

City Manager Scott McDonald has refused the use of City Hall, nobody has asked officially to use Parkland Hospital, and the director of the depository building wants \$7,000 for his participation and the use of the building.

C. Jack Price, Parkland administrator, said he has not been approached by the film maker with any request to shoot footage in the emergency areas where President Kennedy and Oswald died. But if he is, he said it will be a matter for the hospital district board to decide.

Wade and Curry reportedly are to make available to the film makers private files concerning the assassination. But Wade said that his file consists of some public documents and letters.

He said some of the documents include "some affidavits

we didn't use," several thousand letters he received from the public and "extensive notes" he made at the time.

It was not known what constitutes Curry's private file. He could not be reached Thursday for comment.

City Manager McDonald, commenting on the movie company securing rights to certain police files and tape recordings of police broadcasts on the day of the assassination, said:

"I know of no such rights. It has not been our policy to release these things, and we don't anticipate any change in policy. I have not had a request for the release of the tapes and other information."

McDonald said it was his "understanding" that the police department had been approached with such an offer, but said the police department refused on the grounds that was against city policy "to release this sort of thing."

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

The September 15, 1967 issue of the "Dallas Morning News" newspaper, Dallas, Texas, carried an article concerning the possible production of a motion picture entitled "Countdown in Dallas" which movie was to be based on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. This article is set forth as follows:

Wade Denies Any Movie Offer Made or Accepted

Producer Says Curry, Marina Have Agreed to Play in Assassination Film

By DAVID MORGAN

Dist. Atty. Henry Wade hotly denied reports Thursday that he would receive \$20,000 for his participation in making "Countdown in Dallas," a movie based on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Wade blamed the film's producer, Robert Larsen, for the reports.

"There's been no contract, no offers or anything. He's just here trying to raise money."

A story originating from the Los Angeles Times said earlier this week that Wade, Marina Oswald Porter and former Police Chief Jesse Curry would receive substantial sums for personal appearances in the movie, which Larsen has been filming in Dallas.

Larsen told The News Thursday that the Los Angeles Times reporter who was allowed to read the script found documents that indicated what participants might receive if the movie were completed.

"That \$20,000," Larsen said, "is the problem. It was allocated, but that doesn't mean I offered Henry Wade \$20,000."

Larsen explained that the amount was only tentative, "like a hit record."

"If it (the movie) is successful, then we'll consider it. You more or less have to establish figures for targets."

Larsen said he plans to continue with the movie, which already has cost him \$50,000, despite the controversy, and said he's already received verbal agreements by Curry and Mrs. Porter that they are willing to play their parts. Mrs. Porter, he said, will have a major role.

Wade, however, said he'll have no more part of it.

"It's a thing to try to stir up publicity to try to get some people to put up money," Wade charged. "I mean to have nothing whatever to do with it. I'm fed up with it."

Wade said a firm in which he is a partner, Flag-Star, Inc., was formed to "work out some documentary sort of thing," then added:

"But as far as I'm concerned, it's through."

Larsen said the Los Angeles story was

"premature" and that the "onslaught of reporters discouraged and embarrassed" Wade.

"I didn't even get off the ground (in negotiations) with him," Larsen said.

Both Wade and Larsen told The News that Larsen had not perused Wade's personal files on the assassination.

"Actually, everything in this present script is in the Warren Report, anyway," Larsen said.

Both Marina Oswald Porter and Curry have agreed to play themselves, Larsen said, adding that Marina will receive \$20,000 for the part.

"I did state (previously) that we offered her \$20,000," Larsen said. "She wants participation in the picture (and) agreed to do the movie, providing the terms are right. She has an important role in the picture and she certainly can handle it."

Larsen explained that he made a screen test "a couple of years ago" with Marina and that it was satisfactory.

He said he had contacted her husband Thursday, "and they were interested."

Larsen said, however, that no signatures have been taken and no documents drawn.

Larsen said he is slightly discouraged that City Mgr. Scott McDonald has refused to allow him to film policemen or the Municipal Building, where Oswald was killed by Jack Ruby.

"However, he never got to read the script," Larsen argued. "I don't think we would be doing the police department any harm."

Larsen said he needed authentic backdrops for scenes in his filming.

"If I don't get the cooperation of Mr. Wade and the City of Dallas it will be impossible to make the picture. I wanted to be authentic and I don't think it would be the kind of picture you'd go on a Hollywood stage and produce."

Larsen said that his company, Robert Larsen Productions, Ltd., of Colorado Springs, Colo., has a shooting schedule of 32 days and a release date 10 months away.

"All I'm doing is trying to present a fair story of the assassination," he said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page # L-D

"The Dallas Morning News" Dallas, Texas

Date: 9-15-67

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title:

Jack B. Kruger

Character:

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated Dallas