

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

JAN 11 1968

TELETYPE

FBI NEW ORLS

521PM URGENT 1-11-68 CDC

TO DIRECTOR 62-109060 AND DALLAS 89-43

FROM NEW ORLEANS 89-69

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOV. TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE, MISCELLANEOUS
INFO CONCERNING, OO: DALLAS.

THE NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM RED FLASH EDITION,
JAN. ELEVEN INSTANT, REPORTED THAT JAMES HICKS, A WITNESS
IN DA JIM GARRISON'S ASSASSINATION PROBE SAID HE WAS
ATTACKED IN HIS HOTEL ROOM EARLY TODAY BY TWO UNIDENTIFIED
NEGRO MEN AND PUSHED THROUGH A PLATE GLASS DCOR.

THE ARTICLF REPORTED THAT HICKS, A TWENTYNINE YEAR
OLD ENID, OKLA. CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEE, WAS INTERVIEWED
JUST BEFORE TESTIFYING AT A SESSION OF THE ORLEANS PARISH
GRAND JURY AND CLAIMED HE WAS ASLEEP IN HIS ROOM AT THE
FONTAINEBLEAU MOTEL WHEN TWO NEGROES ENTERED THE ROOM, JAN 16 1968
GRABBED HIM, ROUGHED HIM UP, AND THEN THREW HIM THROUGH
A GLASS DOOR LEADING TO THE BALCONY OUTSIDE OF HIS ROOM.

THE ARTICLE REPORTED THAT HICKS TOLD POLICE THAT
EARLIER HE MET TWO NEGRO MEN THAT HE KNEW AND HAD DRINKS
END PAGE ONE

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JAN 11 1968

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

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	

REC 39
W. J. ...
S. ...

Handwritten signatures and initials

REC 39

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5- ...

PAGE TWO

WITH THEM. HE INVITED THESE MEN TO HIS ROOM WHERE THEY HAD MORE DRINKS AND WHEN THE TWO MEN LEFT HE WENT TO BED. HICKS CLAIMED THE TWO NEGRO MEN WHO BEAT HIM UP WERE NOT THE SAME MEN HE HAD BEEN DRINKING WITH EARLIER.

THE ARTICLE REPORTED THAT WHEN HICKS APPEARED AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT GARRISON'S OFFICE HE HAD SCRATCH MARKS ON HIS FOREHEAD AND THE SIDE OF HIS FACE.

ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE HICKS WAS SUBPOENAED TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE GRAND JURY BECAUSE HE WAS PRESENT IN DALLAS ON THE MOTORCADE ROUTE AND WITNESSED THE ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT. THE ARTICLE SAID HICKS SAID TODAY HE THINKS HIS TESTIMONY WILL "THROW SOME LIGHT" ON THAT DAY, NOV. TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE. HICKS, WHO SAID HE IS A PURVEYOR, WAS LIVING IN DALLAS AT THE TIME AND WAS "LOOKING FOR WORK":

THE ARTICLE QUOTED HICKS AS SAYING "IT'S REALLY HARD TO SAY WHAT HAPPENED BECAUSE IT HAPPENED SO FAST, BUT I DO REMEMBER THE PRESIDENT BEING SHOT AND I KNEW HE WAS SHOT WHEN IT HAPPENED BECAUSE I SAW HIS WHOLE HEAD EXPLODE. IT DID NOT LOOK LIKE ONE SHOT, HIS WHOLE HEAD

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

EXPLODED. THIS MEANT TO ME THAT HIS HEAD WAS STRUCK BY MORE THAN ONE BULLET." HICKS ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID HE HEARD FOUR SHOTS AND ONE BULLET CAME OVER HIS HEAD AND STRUCK A TRAFFIC CAUTION SIGN. THE SIGN WAS REMOVED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION AND AS FAR AS HE KNOWS WAS NEVER MENTIONED IN THE WARREN COMMISSION REPORT. HICKS SAID IT WAS REMOVED BY MEN "I ASSUMED TO BE MEMBERS OF THE DALLAS POLICE FORCE. I ASSUMED THEY WOULD USE IT AS EVIDENCE."

HICKS ALLEGED HE GAVE HIS NAME TO A PATROLMAN THAT DAY BUT WAS NEVER CALLED TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE WARREN COMMISSION.

THE ARTICLE SAID THAT HICKS STATED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE ATTACK ON HIM TODAY HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIS PRESENCE IN NEW ORLEANS AS A WITNESS AND THAT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A BURGLARY ATTEMPT. HICKS CLAIMED HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS RECEIVED A NUMBER OF CRANK CALLS, INCLUDING ONE CALL THREATENING HIS WIFE AND SON IF HE DOESN'T KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

THIS SAME ISSUE REPORTED THAT THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE WAS EXPECTED TO SERVE A SUBPOENA TODAY ON LAWRENCE J. HOWARD, JR. WANTED AS A MATERIAL WITNESS IN DA JIM GARRISON'S KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PROBE, WHO ONLY RETURNED TO HIS HOME YESTERDAY FROM AN EXTENDED VACATION IN THE WILDS OF NEW MEXICO.

THE ARTICLE SAID HOWARD, WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS AN UNEMPLOYED TYPE SETTER - WELDER SAID HE SPOKE BY TELEPHONE WITH THE DA'S OFFICE IN LOS ANGELES AND UNDERSTOOD THE SUBPOENA WOULD BE SERVED SOMETIME TODAY. HOWARD SAID HE WAS WORKING IN LOS ANGELES NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE, THE DATE OF THE ASSASSINATION, AND HE HAS NEVER REGISTERED AT THE DALLAS YMCA.

THE ARTICLE QUOTED HOWARD AS SAYING, "THERE IS NO INFORMATION AT ALL THAT I CAN GIVE THAT WOULD IN ANYWAY UNCOVER ANYTHING. I GAVE A STATEMENT TO THE FBI AND AS FAR AS THEY WERE CONCERNED, I WAS CLEARED." HOWARD WOULD NOT DISCUSS WHY HE WAS QUESTIONED BY THE FBI BUT SAID, "I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CONSPIRACY CONCERNING THE

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY... I THINK THEY
ARE INTERESTED IN ME BECAUSE AT ONE TIME I HELPED TRAIN
GUERRILLA FORCES FOR A PROPOSED INVASION OF CUBA. "

MEMO
NO LHM FOLLOWS.

END

MXS

FBI WASH DC

CC- MR. SULLIVAN
