



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana

February 7, 1968

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

Sam DePino, Reporter, WVUE-TV, Channel 12, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised on February 4, 1968, that he had been telephonically contacted by David Lewis early on the morning of February 4, 1968.

DePino explained that he has the confidence of David Lewis, and Lewis said that for the past few months, he has been staying at the residence of Jack Martin, 699 Esplanade Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, since he did not want his whereabouts to be generally known. According to Lewis, Martin has been out of town for the stated purpose of seeking psychiatric care.

DePino said that he does not know Martin's present whereabouts, but he mentioned that prior to Martin's departure from New Orleans about two weeks ago, Martin telephoned DePino and chanted some Latin words to him, purportedly to put a "curse" on DePino.

DePino said that Lewis advised him that he was personally contacted on a downtown New Orleans street on February 3, 1968, by Tommy Beckham, two of Beckham's brothers, not further identified, and an individual named Jim (last name unknown), "from Omaha." These four individuals were driving a 1968 Dodge Charger, bearing a current Nebraska license, number not noticed by Lewis, but ending with the digits "98."

Beckham told Lewis that both he, Beckham, and Jim are agents of the Central Intelligence Agency. Beckham further informed Lewis that he wanted Lewis to go through Jack Martin's files and take all material therefrom relating to the assassination investigation of District Attorney

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ENCLOSURE

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Jim Garrison, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Lewis was instructed to mail this material to Beckham in care of General Delivery, New Orleans, Louisiana. According to DePino, Lewis informed Beckham that he did not wish to become further involved in the Garrison investigation, to which Beckham replied that Lewis was already involved and that if he did not come through with Beckham's request, Lewis was "a dead man."

Beckham also told Lewis that he, Beckham, has Martin's residence telephone tapped, and Beckham implied that he already has enough information against both Lewis and Martin to have them both "sent to Federal prison for 30 years."

Lewis told DePino that as a result of this conversation with Beckham, he was extremely upset and is afraid of Beckham. Lewis claims to have obtained some material of an innocuous nature from Martin's files, which is already general knowledge, but he did not mail this material to Beckham as Beckham had requested.

Beckham supposedly later telephoned Lewis at Martin's residence and told him that he wanted to meet Lewis at the American Drug Store, 900 block of Canal Street, at 2:30 p.m. on February 4, 1968. Lewis claims to have told Beckham that he was ill and would be unable to meet him, to which Beckham replied, "That's the sorriest mistake you will ever make if you don't meet me."

DePino said Lewis told him that he had notified Louis Ivon, Investigator, District Attorney's Office, New Orleans, Louisiana, regarding Beckham's conversation, and Ivon told Lewis to "sit pat" and not mail anything to Beckham, and Ivon would "handle the matter."

DePino said Lewis did not feel that Ivon took the implied threat of Beckham against Lewis seriously enough, and Lewis telephoned Presley Trosclair, Assistant Superintendent

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of the New Orleans Police Department, to make him aware of the situation. Trosclair referred Lewis to an unidentified Detective-Sergeant and Lewis advised the detective of the matter.

DePino said that Lewis told him that Tommy Beckham and one of Beckham's brothers were armed and they exhibited papers indicating that they have been appointed auxiliary deputy sheriffs for Orleans Parish. Lewis claims to have learned, however, that Louis Heyd, Criminal Sheriff, Orleans Parish, had allegedly revoked the credentials of Beckham and his brother on about February 2, 1968.

According to DePino, Lewis was instructed by Ivon not to meet Beckham at the above-mentioned drug store on February 4, 1968, since Ivon was going to handle the matter. DePino said that he ascertained that Beckham did not come to the drug store at 2:30 p.m. as had been arranged. DePino said that Lewis informed him that he did not mail any material from Martin's files to Beckham and he does not intend to do so.

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