

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
& DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATION SECTION

FEB 15 1968

TELETYPE

REC-19

- Mr. DeLoach
- 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

FBI WSH DC

FBI NEW ORLS

806PM URGENT 2/15/68 OLP

TO DIRECTOR (62-109060) AND DALLAS 889-43)

FROM NEW ORLEANS (89-69) 3P

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,

DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE,

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING: OO: DALLAS.

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM FINAL EDITION, FEBRUARY FIFTEEN INSTANT, REPORTED THAT ENTERTAINER-EVANGELIST THOMAS E. BECKHAM RELUCTANTLY APPEARED BEFORE ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY AFTER A CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE ORDERED HIM TO TESTIFY IN THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PROBE. THE ARTICLE REPORTED THAT BECKHAM ENTERED THE JURY ROOM ABOUT TEN FORTYFIVE A.M., MINUTES AFTER HE LOST A BID TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY ACCOMPANY HIM DURING THE QUESTIONING.

THE ARTICLE STATED THAT BECKHAM, ACTING AS HIS OWN ATTORNEY, FILED A MOTION WITH JUDGE MATTHEW S. BRANIFF SEEKING TO PREVENT HIS APPEARANCE BEFORE THE GRAND JURY ON THE GROUNDS THAT HIS CIVIL RIGHTS WOULD BE VIOLATED.

END PAGE ONE

REC-19

EX-110

62-109060-6180

FEB 19 1968

FEB 23 1968

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

FEB 1968

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*  
 R. [unclear]  
 [unclear]

*[Handwritten signature]*  
 57 [unclear]

PAGE TWO

BECKHAM CLAIMED HE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION AND SAID HE FEARED HE WAS BEING FRAMED BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON AND JACK MARTIN, A SELF-STYLED PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR.

THE ARTICLE STATED THAT BECKHAM ENTERED COURT TODAY WITHOUT COUNSEL ACCOMPANIED BY A. ROSWELL THOMPSON, A MULTI-TIMES CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR AND OTHER OFFICES.

ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, BECKHAM TOLD THE COURT HE DREW UP THE LEGAL DOCUMENT HIMSELF IN A RESTAURANT AFTER CONFERRING WITH AN ATTORNEY. THE DOCUMENT WAS LABELED "REQUEST FOR RESTRAINING ORDER ON PERSONAL APPEARANCE WITHOUT COUNSEL". BECKHAM CLAIMED HE WAS TOLD BY THE OMAHA COURT THAT HE WOULD NOT BE FORCED TO INCRIMINATE HIMSELF BUT NOW FINDS THAT INCRIMINATION OF HIMSELF BEFORE THE ORLEANS JURY IS POSSIBLE.

THE ARTICLE STATED THAT JUDGE BRANIFF ASKED BECKHAM WHO WOULD ACT AS HIS ATTORNEY IF THE MOTION

END PAGE TWO

SEP 10 11 34 AM '66

PAGE THREE

WAS GRANTED AND BECKHAM REPLIED HE THOUGHT THE COURT  
WOULD SUPPLY HIM WITH AN ATTORNEY.

THE ARTICLE STATED BECKHAM INDICATED HE PLANNED  
TO CITE THE FIFTH AMENDMENT IF HE WERE ASKED QUESTIONS  
THAT HE BELIEVED WOULD INCRIMINATE HIM.

THE ARTICLE REPORTED THAT JUDGE BRANIFF DENIED  
THE MOTION CONTENDING THAT THE WITNESS HAD NOTHING TO  
FEAR IF HE TOLD THE TRUTH. THE ARTICLE STATED JUDGE  
BRANIFF INSTRUCTED A DEPUTY SHERIFF TO ACCOMPANY BECKHAM  
TO THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE JURY ROOM.

THE ARTICLE STATED THAT BECKHAM WAITED THERE UNTIL  
GARRISON MADE A BRIEF APPEARANCE BEFORE THE GRAND JURY.  
*memo*  
NO LHM BEING SUBMITTED.

END

SVW

FBI WASH DC

APR 19 11 30 AM '68

APR 19 11 30 AM '68

LIVAN