

3/26/68

Airtel

1 - Mr. Lenihan

To: SAC, New York (Enclosures - 3)

From: Director, FBI (62-109060) - 6277

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

PRES. REC. UNIT

On January 31-February 1, 1968, Johnny Carson had as his guest on his television show, New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison. During the approximate one-hour Carson show, Garrison rehashed many of the allegations he has made at press conferences during recent months. He also spoke of what he called "new evidence" which he has developed in connection with his probe of the assassination of the late President Kennedy.

Garrison alleged that Mark Lane who has been helping him in his investigation, recently interviewed William S. Walter, a former Security Clerk of the New Orleans Office of the FBI, and that Lane and his wife had submitted an affidavit to Garrison setting forth the results of the interview with Walter.

Garrison alleged that Walter informed Lane that on the morning of November 17, 1963, at which time Walter was on duty as a Security Clerk in the New Orleans FBI Office, the New Orleans Office received a TWX message which was directed to all southern regional offices of the FBI. The message reportedly stated that an attempt to assassinate President Kennedy would be made in Dallas on November 22, 1963. Walter allegedly called the Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Office and informed him of the message and received instructions from the Special Agent in Charge to call the appropriate Agents of the New Orleans Office and tell them to maintain contact with various informants.

MAILED 12  
MAR 26 1968  
COMM-FBI

- 1 - Dallas (89-43)
- 1 - New Orleans (89-69)

REL: as  
(6)

SEE NOTE PAGE THREE AND FOUR.

- Mr. Tolson
- 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

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WES  
LWS

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Garrison further alleged that Walter told Mark Lane that the FBI had also sent a directive to the New Orleans Office instructing the various Agents who had conducted interviews concerning the assassination of President Kennedy to examine their interview reports to make sure there were no conflicts contained in them; further that the Agents were ordered to resolve any conflicts, prepare new reports and destroy the old reports.

For your information, William S. Walter was employed as a file clerk at our New Orleans Office from June, 1961, until he was separated for military service on December 4, 1961. He was reinstated on August 14, 1962, and in August, 1963, he was designated as a Security Patrol Clerk in the New Orleans Office of the FBI. He voluntarily resigned from the FBI September 7, 1966, to accept other employment.

A thorough check of our files at Seat of Government and at New Orleans disclosed no record of any type of communication to the New Orleans Office or any other office reporting that there would be an attempt to assassinate President Kennedy in Dallas on November 22, 1963.

Enclosed for your information are a copy of a letterhead memorandum dated February 2, 1968, at Jacksonville, Florida, and a copy of a letterhead memorandum dated February 5, 1968, at New Orleans, which set out data volunteered to each office, respectively, by William S. Walter. Each communication reports that Walter denied the allegations of Garrison made on the Johnny Carson television program.

However, we have now received information from United States Attorney Louis C. LaCour, New Orleans, Louisiana, reporting that Walter is alleging there was a wire communication addressed to the Special Agent in Charge, New Orleans, reporting that there would be possibly an attempt on the life of President Kennedy in connection with President Kennedy's forthcoming visit to Texas. Walter reportedly claims he notified Mr. Harry G. Maynor, then Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Office, of the receipt of this communication.

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Enclosed is a letterhead memorandum dated March 20, 1968, at New Orleans which sets out full details of the information furnished by United States Attorney LaCour and two of his assistants in connection with their recent contact with Walter.

A check of Bureau files disclosed former Special Agent in Charge Harry G. Maynor is employed as Director of Security, General Telephone and Electronics Service Corporation, 730 Third Avenue, New York, New York.

New York Office should immediately contact Mr. Maynor and furnish him a brief background of the incident and allegations involving Walter. New York Office should ask Mr. Maynor if he can recall any FBI communication to the New Orleans Office alleging there would be an assassination attempt of President Kennedy in Texas or whether he was ever contacted by former Security Patrol Clerk William S. Walter reporting receipt of such communication from the Bureau.

New York Office should ask Mr. Maynor whether he can recall receiving or seeing any communication from FBI Headquarters instructing the various Agents of the New Orleans Office who had conducted interviews concerning the assassination of President Kennedy to examine their interview reports to make sure there were no conflicts contained in them; further that the Agents were ordered to resolve any conflicts, prepare new reports and destroy old reports.

Results of your interview with Mr. Maynor should be immediately forwarded to the Bureau by airtel enclosing a letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination.

NOTE:

William S. Walter, former Security Patrol Clerk, New Orleans Office, resigned in September, 1966, while on probation for demonstrating atrocious judgment concerning activities while on sick leave. Walter has changed his story repeatedly concerning an alleged communication from FBI Headquarters to New Orleans reporting there would be an assassination attempt of President Kennedy in Texas. We instructed New Orleans by teletype 3/22/68 to interview Walter, pin him down and get a signed statement from him in this

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NOTE CONTINUED:

matter. Walter reportedly is traveling around the country and New Orleans is attempting to locate him for interview. Inasmuch as he claims former Special Agent in Charge Harry Maynor was informed of this alleged FBI communication involving an assassination threat against President Kennedy, desirable Mr. Maynor be immediately contacted so we will have the true facts in this matter and can so advise the Attorney General. Mr. Maynor's employment position and address obtained from Special Correspondents List.