

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: May 6, 1968

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

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

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Department has made available to the Bureau a copy of a letter (attached) which was directed to United States Attorney Louis LaCour in New Orleans from James L. Alcock, Executive Assistant to New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison. - Alcock informs Mr. LaCour that the State of Louisiana will call Special Agent Regis L. Kennedy of the FBI to testify for it in the case of State v. Clay L. Shaw. Alcock indicates the testimony sought from Kennedy will be essentially the same as given by Kennedy in the case of State v. Dean A. Andrews, Jr. Alcock pointed out that in the Shaw case there may be considerable cross-examination of Kennedy about things not directly concerning Dean Andrews or Clay Bertrand. Alcock requested a meeting with Special Agent Kennedy and United States Attorney LaCour as soon as convenient, to discuss Kennedy's testimony and possible areas of cross-examination.

REMOVED IN

DATA REGARDING REGIS L. KENNEDY: REC 10 62-109060-6404

Regis L. Kennedy retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation April 30, 1968. Prior to his retirement he handled security and criminal matters in the New Orleans Office and since November 22, 1963, has conducted considerable investigation in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy's investigation included efforts to determine facts regarding the allegation made by Dean Andrews, Jr., New Orleans attorney, wherein Andrews alleged one Clay Bertrand telephonically contacted Andrews and requested latter go to Dallas, Texas, immediately following the assassination and represent Lee Harvey Oswald. Clay Bertrand was never located and Andrews informed Kennedy that the whole episode must have been a figment of his imagination during the time he was critically ill in a New Orleans hospital.

5/10/68

Enclosure 62-109060

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. J. P. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. N. P. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. A. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan

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MAY 27 1968

MAY 23 1968

CONTINUED - OVER PERS. REC. UNIT

5/10/68

Memorandum to Mr. W. J. Sullivan
RE: ASSASSINATION OF RESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY

TESTIMONY OF REGIS L. KENNEDY BEFORE ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY:

On May 17, 1967, Special Agent Kennedy, in response to a subpoena, appeared before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury. He testified for approximately one hour and ten minutes during which time he was asked a number of questions by Garrison and his staff which indicated that Garrison is attempting to prove Oswald was a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent and was involved with Clay Shaw and anti-Castro Cubans in the assassination of President Kennedy.

Special Agent Kennedy answered those questions on which he was knowledgeable from a personal standpoint in accordance with Departmental instructions and utilized Departmental Order 324-64 in refusing to answer questions which related to FBI investigation or his position as a Special Agent of the FBI.

Special Agent Kennedy reported that many of the questions asked of him during the Grand Jury proceedings were phrased by Garrison and his staff in such a way to elicit an agreement from Special Agent Kennedy as to the fact stated. Special Agent Kennedy advised that he answered all of their questions in a manner that Garrison and members of his staff could get no agreement from him. The foreman of the Grand Jury later told news representatives that Special Agent Kennedy's testimony before the Grand Jury "was satisfactory."

CURRENT STATUS:

Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Rightmyer was telephonically informed by Section Chief William A. Branigan of Alcock's letter to United States Attorney LaCour. Mr. Rightmyer was instructed to alert Mr. Regis Kennedy of contents of Alcock's letter. This was done and Mr. Kennedy informed SAC Rightmyer he would immediately inform Mr. Rightmyer should he receive a subpoena or correspondence from Garrison's office or be contacted by Garrison or his staff. Mr. Kennedy informed SAC Rightmyer that he plans to remain in the New Orleans area until approximately May 31, 1968, at which time he plans to travel to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and St. John Island for approximately one month. He then plans to visit his daughter, Mrs. Julio Guerra, Lincoln, Nebraska, for approximately ten days and then may travel to Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon and San Francisco. He does not know at this time how long he will be gone. News accounts report trial of Clay Shaw will begin June 11, 1968, in New Orleans.

OBSERVATIONS:

Testimony of former Special Agent Regis Kennedy at the trial of Clay Shaw in New Orleans will be of vital interest to this Bureau. Special Agent Kennedy had access to considerable sensitive information and undoubtedly will be instructed by the Department to exercise executive privilege under Departmental Order 381-67 and respectfully decline to answer certain questions asked of him. In view of the various facets

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OBSERVATIONS AND ACTION CONTINUED OVER

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involved in Special Agent Kennedy's testimony, desirable representatives of the Domestic Intelligence Division orally discuss with Departmental representatives the ramifications involved as far as Bureau's interests are concerned.

ACTION:

If you approve, representatives of the Domestic Intelligence Division will discuss this matter in detail with Departmental representatives in order to determine specifics of the course of action contemplated by the Department in this matter. Thereafter, an appropriate memorandum will be submitted setting forth appropriate recommendations for course of action to be followed by this Bureau in this matter.

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