

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (105-82555)

DATE: 5/14/68

FROM : SAC, NORFOLK (89-17) (RUC)

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

Re Bureau airtel to All SACs dated 3/16/67. *Canada Wash. Parada*

On 5/14/68 an individual identifying himself as HENRY ANDREW GOURLEY appeared at the Norfolk Office of the FBI. He stated that he left Vancouver, British Columbia, on 3/19/68 aboard the Danish ship M/S "JANECKE," has since traveled to ports in Europe via the Panama Canal, and arrived in Norfolk, Virginia, on 5/13/68. He said he was a seaman aboard this ship, and another seaman by the name of LORENZO HITCHCOCK harassed him at times, especially when HITCHCOCK had been drinking. He said HITCHCOCK told him he had been in the Kingston Prison, Ontario, Canada, for 18 years on a charge of manslaughter, and he, GOURLEY, was afraid of him (HITCHCOCK). He said HITCHCOCK, in talking about his release from prison, indicated one WILLIAM J. BROWN had helped obtain his release and indicated BROWN was a Senator from Newfoundland. *Seaman M/S, Janecke*

GOURLEY said when HITCHCOCK mentioned BROWN he recognized this name as being one he had heard earlier in a bar in Vancouver. He said about three or four days prior to the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY, he and a friend, JOHN LANG, who sells newspapers at St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, were in the Hildon Hotel bar on Cordova Street, Vancouver, having a few drinks. Also present at the bar were three men sitting at another table, who were discussing plans to assassinate President KENNEDY, Governor WALLACE, and some other public figures, including former Vice President RICHARD NIXON. GOURLEY said one of these three men was referred to as LEE OSWALD by name, and another as WILLIAM J. BROWN. He said he did not recall hearing the third man's name. GOURLEY said he could not explain as to why these men referred to each other by their full name in conversation among themselves.

GOURLEY described these men as follows:

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Norfolk

EWR:jst  
(3)

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OSWALD - white male, aged 28 to 30 years old, 5'8-9" tall, slender build, hair, clothing not recalled, and further description not recalled.

BROWN - white male, aged 30 to 35 years old, 5'2-3", stocky build, hair not recalled, reddish brown mustache (bushy), dark suit, further description not recalled.

Third man - white male, aged 20 to 25 years old, 5'4-5" tall, slender build, further description not recalled.

He said he recalled part of the conversation, and remembers OSWALD saying he had no reason to kill President KENNEDY, but would do so. He said BROWN said he did have a reason for killing President KENNEDY as he, BROWN, had been kicked out of the Navy. He said these men indicated that they had decided against killing NIXON as he was not important enough.

GOURLEY stated the next day he reported this situation to the local police in Vancouver, but they said they could not do anything about it. He said, of course, a few days later, President KENNEDY was killed, but he did not then tell anyone about the conversation he had overheard, and has not since told anyone about it except members of his family, who did not want to get involved. He said he did not want to get involved either, but had been advised to furnish this information to the FBI.

GOURLEY said upon arrival at Norfolk, Virginia, on 5/13/68, he had been paid off by the ship as he wanted to return to Vancouver and the ship was going to other ports. He said he was paid over \$300.00, and checked into the Atlantic Hotel, Granby Street, Norfolk, which he described as being second class. He said during the evening of 5/13/68 he had some drinks at the local bars and a police officer subsequently advised him he had better call it a night as he was drinking too much. He said he returned to his room and went to bed, and when he dressed the morning of 5/14/68 he discovered two \$100.00 bills were missing from his wallet, although approximately \$56.00 had been left in his wallet.

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GOURLEY said he reported the theft to the Norfolk Police Department, told them about his troubles with HITCHCOCK, and about the conversation he had overheard between OSWALD, BROWN and the other man. He said the police officers told him to report this to the FBI and that was the reason he was doing so.

GOURLEY said the ship he had worked on left Norfolk the morning of 5/14/68, and he himself was leaving to return to Vancouver.

During questioning of GOURLEY, as to details in this matter, he became upset and started to cry. He stated he had been receiving treatment at the Riverview Mental Hospital, Vancouver, British Columbia, for his nerves, and, in fact, is still receiving treatment, and is to return to the hospital for further treatment. He said he did not recall when he first went to the hospital, but it was quite some time ago. He said doctors at Vancouver had stated he was mentally insane, but the doctors had made a mistake as it was just his nerves.

During the course of the conversation, it was difficult to follow GOURLEY's train of thought as he would jump from one subject to another, and sometimes speak as to make it difficult to understand.

The following description of GOURLEY was obtained through observation and interview:

Name:	HENRY ANDREW GOURLEY
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	6/4/21
Place of Birth:	Vancouver, British Columbia
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	165 pounds
Hair:	Dark brown, graying
Eyes:	Hazel
Canadian Passport No.:	5-623261
Home Address:	Mariners Club for Seamen 1301 Robson Street Vancouver, British Columbia

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**Sisters:**

Mrs. S. E. RICHARD  
5869 Montgomery Street  
Vancouver, British Columbia

Mrs. A. DAY  
4643 Rumble Street  
South Burnaby, British Columbia

**Brother:**

Mr. S. V. GOURLEY  
2795 Crescent View Road  
North Vancouver, British  
Columbia

**Previous Arrests:**

By Immigration and Naturalization  
Service at Seattle, Washington,  
during approximately 1954, for  
overstaying his visiting period  
in the United States  
Canadian

**Naturalization:**

In view of GOURLEY's admitted treatment at Riverview  
Mental Hospital, Vancouver, and the nature of his statements,  
no further action being taken in this matter by the Norfolk  
Division.