

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

REC 3

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: May 14, 1968

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

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

Branigan

James L. Alcock, Executive Assistant to New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison, has written a letter to the Director dated 5/10/68 requesting to see FBI reports on David William Ferrie. Alcock points out that the "classified" FBI reports concerning Ferrie are found in Warren Commission Document number 75.

FBI investigative results concerning Ferrie are set out in the report of Special Agent Warren C. DeBrueys dated 12/2/63 at Dallas, Texas, in the Lee Harvey Oswald investigation. This report was designated Commission Document number 75 by the Warren Commission. Fifty-five pages of this Document contain data regarding David William Ferrie and such data is withheld from public disclosure by the National Archives based on criteria approved by Mr. McGeorge Bundy, former Special Assistant to the President. The data withheld involves allegations, gossip and rumors that David William Ferrie was a homosexual and a sexual degenerate.

David William Ferrie died of natural causes 2/22/67. Garrison maintains that Ferrie was involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and has alleged that Clay Shaw met with Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald in Ferrie's apartment in September, 1963, to plot the assassination of President Kennedy.

We conducted extensive investigation of Ferrie during our investigation of the assassination and found no indication he was involved in the assassination. All allegations linking Ferrie to Lee Harvey Oswald or the assassination emanated from Jack S. Martin, a New Orleans private investigator who has a sordid reputation as an alcoholic and has been hospitalized in the past for mental illness. Martin is in current contact with Garrison and his attitude and demeanor strongly suggest he is mentally deranged at this time.

Enclosure sent 5-15-68

62-109060

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. A. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. E. Lenihan

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Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
62-109060

Following David Ferrie's death on 2/22/67, representatives of the news media and others requested to see the Ferrie material which is being withheld from public disclosure by National Archives. By letter dated 2/24/67 we informed the Acting Attorney General that in view of the public interest surrounding David William Ferrie and his involvement in Garrison's allegations, we had no objection to public disclosure of the data concerning Ferrie as set out in Commission Document number 75. We noted that the final decision as to public disclosure of the Ferrie material rests with the Department of Justice. The Department took no action on releasing the material concerning Ferrie to the public.

OBSERVATIONS:

We have not responded to letters from Garrison or his staff in the past and it is felt we should not reply to Alcock's letter but instead refer the letter to the Attorney General. We have no objection to the Department making the Ferrie material available to the public and, thus available to James L. Alcock. It would be in our interest to permit the public to read the Ferrie material and recognize that the allegations involving Ferrie with the assassination and Lee Harvey Oswald emanated from Jack S. Martin. This would give news media a keen insight into the type of investigation Garrison is conducting and could well result in various news reporters writing hard-hitting articles exposing Garrison and his prime source, Jack S. Martin. In view of this, it is felt we should urge the Department at this time to make available to the public the 55 pages of material in Commission Document number 75 relating to David William Ferrie.

ACTION:

Attached for approval is a letter to the Attorney General transmitting a copy of Alcock's letter requesting results of FBI investigation of Ferrie and suggesting that the Attorney General consider releasing the Ferrie data to the public at this time.

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