

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

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

- 1 - Mr. C. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. A. Rosen

DATE: February 11, 1969

- 1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. T. N. Goble

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
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For information, news media report Perry Russo, 27-year-old book salesman, testified 2/10/69 at Clay Shaw trial in New Orleans, repeating information furnished by him at March, 1967, pre-trial hearing that Lee Harvey Oswald, Clay Shaw and David Ferrie, at meeting in Ferrie's apartment in September, 1963, discussed assassination of President Kennedy. On one crucial point Russo, on 2/10/69, changed story he gave in March, 1967, that is, as to presence of his former girl friend, Sandra Moffett McMaines, at Ferrie's apartment on night of meeting. In March, 1967, Russo testified she accompanied him to party which preceded meeting; on 2/10/69 he testified she did not. Mrs. McMaines, following Russo's March, 1967, testimony publicly denied attending the described party.

On cross-examination defense confronted Russo with report of first interview with Russo by Garrison's staff, a report which makes no mention of the meeting. Russo testified report incorrectly described first interview.

ANALYSIS:

Defense has described Russo as "notoriety-seeking liar." Cross-examination of him will continue 2/11/69 and defense will probably question him closely about change in story from 1967 version. On this point, he either lied in 1967, lied yesterday, or lied both times. Defense will also probably dig into circumstances of his first telling story to Garrison's staff. It was disclosed following his March, 1967, testimony that Russo's story was obtained from him only after he was placed under hypnosis and given drugs. Russo has admitted undergoing psychiatric treatment and experiencing homosexual acts.

Russo testified Oswald was introduced to him as Leon Oswald, Ferrie's roommate. Marina Oswald and their neighbors have stated that during this 1963 period of their lives Oswald stayed at home

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ANALYSIS AND ACTION CONTINUED OVER

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RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
62-109060

most of the time (he was unemployed from mid-July, 1963, until they left New Orleans toward the end of September, 1963), lived with Marina Oswald on a day-to-day basis and only left home for short periods. Marina Oswald has been subpoenaed by defense.

ACTION:

For information, since facts have been reported in news media. Case will continue to be closely followed.

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M. C. Sullivan

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