

July 21, 1972  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Attached was teletype reports the Texas School Book Depository, Dallas, Texas, was on fire morning of 7/20/72. The depository is the building from which Lee Harvey Oswald shot President John F. Kennedy on 11/22/63. It was recently sold to Aubrey Mayhew, a Nashville, Tennessee, businessman who is reportedly several months behind in his \$6,000 a month payments on the building. Mayhew publicly stated the building has historical significance and plans to make it into a private museum.

Raymond Nasher, Chairman, John F. Kennedy Memorial Commission, Dallas, is attempting to convince Texas State Legislature to take building by eminent domain as a state shrine.

Deputy Fire Chief, Dallas Fire Department, advised that investigation of the fire failed to indicate any incendiary device had been used to set the fire; however, an odor of gasoline was noted in the building and it is suspected gasoline was spread in the building to induce the fire. Complete arson investigation is underway. Our Dallas Office will advise us of pertinent developments.

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