

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Jenkins

DATE: 9-12-74

FROM : J. J. McDermott

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF JOHN FITZGERALD
KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS
11-22-63

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. _____
- Comp. Syst. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Files & Com. _____
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

Reference memorandum of 9-10-74 from Mr. Gebhardt to Mr. Adams concerning the album of photographs furnished the Director by Don Donahue, Special Assistant to Senator Henry Jackson (D-Wash.), and recommending that Donahue be contacted to obtain the identity of the police officer shown in photograph number 4.

Inspector Bowers interviewed Donahue on the afternoon of 9-11-74. Donahue stated the album of photographs was furnished to Richard Perle, Professional Staff Member on the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which is chaired by Jackson, about two weeks ago. He said Michael Canfield, who furnished the photos to Perle, had been put in contact with Perle by Sam Jaffee (phonetic), identified as a free-lance writer in the Washington area who supposedly has close contacts with the Chicago Tribune. Jaffee, according to Donahue, is a source for Perle and is the individual who first tipped Senator Jackson to the fact that sophisticated law enforcement equipment was being sold to the Russians, an issue over which Senator Jackson has raised considerable controversy. Perle gave the photos to Donahue at Senator Jackson's instructions for Donahue to handle the matter. Donahue talked with Canfield about 9-4-74 and learned from him that some of the photographs had been obtained from the files of the three Dallas newspapers. The papers said the photographs were ones which had never been published. The question arose as to whether or not the pictures might have been "doctored," and Canfield and his associates attempted to obtain the negatives from the newspapers. One paper claimed the negatives had been stolen, another paper refused to furnish the negatives, and the third paper wanted \$500 for the negatives.

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Gebhardt
- 1 - Mr. White

- 1 - Mr. McDermott
- 1 - Mr. Bates
- 1 - Mr. Bowers

62-109060-7131

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SEP 27 1974

EX-105 REC-16
CONTINUED - OVER SEP 18 1974

CONGRESSIONAL SERVICE

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One of the photographs (number 4) shows a police officer with three "bums" who allegedly were arrested by the officer behind the Texas School Book Depository shortly after President Kennedy was shot. Canfield claims these individuals were never booked, fingerprinted, or photographed in connection with this arrest. Donahue told Canfield he would have a photographic expert look at the pictures and that he should have the results of this examination by 9-16-74 when Canfield is scheduled to return to Washington from New York City.

Jaffee phoned Donahue late on 9-10-74. Donahue has never met Jaffee. Jaffee opened the conversation by saying he had been referred to Donahue by mutual friends in the FBI and Secret Service. He also mentioned his acquaintance with Perle and then began discussing the photographs Canfield had furnished to Perle. Jaffee said he had personally talked to the officer in the photograph whom he identified as Officer Harkness (phonetic). He said the officer has retired from the Dallas Police Department and now is living in Louisiana. He said Jaffee claimed to have talked to Harkness last week and Harkness stated he recalled finding the three bumps behind the Depository about ten minutes after Kennedy was shot. He said he had arrested them and taken them to the sheriff's office and the sheriff had told him to take them to Captain Fitz or Fritz of the Dallas Police Department. This Harkness did and he waited outside the office while the Captain questioned the three men for no more than 15 minutes. The Captain then came out and told Harkness to release the men. Jaffee said Harkness reported the men were not booked, fingerprinted, or photographed and as far as he knows their names were not taken.

Donahue said Jaffee raised the question as to whether or not these men might have had FBI, CIA, Secret Service, or some other Government agency credentials which he felt would be necessary to effect their release by the Captain so quickly. Jaffee claimed he had discussed this matter with Rufus Youngblood, former head of the White House Detail of Secret Service, and Youngblood said he has an "open mind." Jaffee also stated he had talked to Jim Squires, head of the Chicago Tribune News Bureau in Washington and Squires wants to see the photographs saying this could be "dynamite." Jaffee also claimed that within the last few weeks he had talked to one Herbert Orth, a former CIA photographic expert who served as the photographic expert for the Warren Commission and Orth said the Commission had never heard of a photograph such as described by Jaffee (the photograph of the officer and the three bums). Orth, according to Jaffee, is now assistant chief of the Time-Life Photographic Laboratory in New York City. Jaffee also said that he had received a call from CBS asking about the photographs and said he could not understand how CBS had learned about this matter. Donahue said Jaffee agreed the matter should be taken up with the FBI. Donahue said Jaffee described Canfield as a "scared kid" who is possibly afraid for his safety and afraid that some

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news outlet may use this material before Canfield can make use of it himself. Donahue said Jaffee apparently hopes to have an exclusive on this story if and when it breaks.

It was pointed out to Donahue that it appears highly unlikely that Canfield is afraid of the story leaking since there is good indication he has been attempting to peddle this story all around town as illustrated by his contact with Jaffee and Jaffee's contacts with the Chicago Tribune and Time-Life. Donahue was told also that we are aware that Canfield has approached Reuters News Service. He was told that we have talked with Canfield on several occasions and while Canfield has promised to furnish us the photographs in question he has never done so.

By way of background, Bowers has talked with Canfield by telephone on 8-7-74 and 8-12-74 to arrange an appointment for an Agent of Washington Field Office to interview him. Washington Field Office Supervisor John Ruhl and another Agent did interview Canfield in the Office of Congressman Henry Gonzalez (D-Texas) on 8-13-74, and Canfield told them he would furnish them copies of the photographs in the near future. Ruhl spoke with Canfield on 9-5-74 since the photographs had not been received, and Canfield said they would be furnished to Ruhl by 9-11-74. They were not.

Donahue is reluctant to recontact Jaffee or Canfield seeking the full identity of the police officer unless absolutely necessary since he feels this may cause them to lose confidence in him. He indicated he would make further inquiry in this regard if we are unable to locate Harkness through the Dallas Police Department. Donahue said he intends to tell Canfield when he contacts him on Monday that he has had an expert look at the pictures and "there may be something to this;" hence, he would want to keep the photographs and refer them to the FBI. He said he would like to have the photographs back by Monday to have them in hand when Canfield contacts him. It was pointed out to Donahue that should he make such a statement to Canfield this could be used by Canfield in giving credence to his story and might be interpreted as an acceptance of this story by Senator Jackson. Donahue then agreed that he would make no statement whatever to Canfield and would merely put him off should Canfield contact him before the Bureau is complete with its inquiry into this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to the General Investigative Division.

Jim

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DWB