

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 28 1976
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NR001 JK PLAIN

10:45 AM URGENT JUNE 28, 1976 ILF

TO: DIRECTOR (62-109060)

MIAMI

FROM: JACKSONVILLE (89-10)(P) 4P

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, NOVEMBER 22, 1963,

DALLAS, TEXAS.

JOSEPH LAWRENCE CAMPBELL, 155 LITTLE PARK ROAD, GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO, 303-243-0677, A WM, BORN FEBRUARY 26, 1942, MONTREAL, CANADA, AND POSSESSES ALIEN REGISTRATION NUMBER A8 387 082, ON JUNE 25, 1976, APPEARED AT THE JACKSONVILLE FBI OFFICE AND RELATED THE FOLLOWING STORY CLAIMING HE WAS MAKING THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE NOW SINCE THE PRESS HAS PUT FORTH RECENT ARTICLES INDICATING A POSSIBLE CUBAN CONNECTION IN THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

CAMPBELL STATED HE AND 6 OTHER INDIVIDUALS WERE ABOARD THE PISCES, A 52-FOOT SHRIMP BOAT, WHEN IT SANK IN MARCH, 1962. THE GROUP WAS HUNTING SUNKEN SPANISH TREASURES AND DUE TO A NAVIGATIONAL ERROR, THE BOAT HIT A REEF OFF OF CUBA WHICH NECESSITATED SWIMMING TO SHORE WHERE THEY WERE PICKED UP BY CUBAN AUTHORITIES AND WERE TAKEN TO BARACOA, CUBA.

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THE 7 WERE DETAINED IN BARACOA FOR 3 DAYS AND THEN TAKEN TO SANTIAGO DE CUBA WHERE THEY REMAINED FOR 4 DAYS PRIOR TO BEING RELEASED AND THEN RETURNED TO THE U.S. THEY WERE INTERROGATED AT BARACOA AS WELL AS SANTIAGO DE CUBA AND AFTER RETURNING ALL WERE INTERROGATED BY OFFICIALS OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, CIA, FBI, AND U.S. NAVY CONCERNING THEIR CAPTURE BY CUBAN AUTHORITIES. HE SAID THIS EVENT MADE NATIONAL HEADLINES INCLUDING THEIR PICTURES IN THE PRESS.

CAMPBELL SAID DURING THE FIRST 3 DAYS OF DETENTION IN BARACOA, HE RECALLED JOHN STEERY, NOW OF FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, WAS COMING OUT OF A ROOM AND STEERY TURNED TO A CUBAN LIEUTENANT AND REMARKED "DID YOU SERVE IN THE USMC IN KOREA?" AND NAMED A SPECIFIC UNIT TO WHICH THE CUBAN REPLIED YES.

CAMPBELL SAID THE CUBAN LIEUTENANT WAS SHORT, ABOUT 5'5" TO 5'6", WORE GI-TYPE FATIGUES.

CAMPBELL SAID NOTHING WAS THOUGHT OF THE MATTER AT THE TIME BUT APPROXIMATELY 11 YEARS AGO HE WAS IN FT. LAUDERDALE VISITING STEERY AND THE 2 WENT TO A BAR AND STEERY, ALTHOUGH SLIGHTLY

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HIGH, REMARKED "YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE ME BUT DO YOU RECALL THE INCIDENT IN BARACOA WHEN I REMARKED TO THE CUBAN ABOUT WHETHER HE HAD SERVED IN THE USMC IN KOREA AND HE REPLIED YES?" STEERY CLAIMED THAT CUBAN WAS LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND BOTH HE AND CAMPBELL AGREED THEY WERE VERY SIMILAR IN APPEARANCE, THAT THE ONLY THING DIFFERENT WAS THAT THE CUBAN HAD A MUSTACHE-WHEREAS THE PICTURES OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD THAT CAMPBELL HAD SEEN DID NOT SHOW A MUSTACHE. CAMPBELL SAID THE CUBAN SPOKE GOOD ENGLISH BUT DID NOT ELABORATE ANY FURTHER TO STEERY'S REMARKS.

CAMPBELL IDENTIFIED THE 6 OTHER INDIVIDUALS THAT WERE DETAINED IN CUBA AS GORDON S. PATTON; FRED DICKSON (NOW DECEASED); JOHN R. STEERY, FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, WHO IS WELL KNOWN AROUND PIER 66; JOHN JOHNSON; BERNIE NISTAD (NISTAD REPORTEDLY IS A FRIEND OF HUGH DOWNS); AND MIKE FREEMAN.

MIAMI AT FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, INTERVIEW JOHN R. STEERY WHO MAY BE LOCATED EITHER AROUND THE AMERICANA MOTEL OR PIER 66, REGARDING THE INCIDENT AND ALSO REVIEW ANY MIAMI FILES THAT MAY PERTAIN TO THE INTERROGATION OF THE 7 WHEN

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THEY RETURNED TO MIAMI, FLORIDA, IN MARCH, 1962, IF FILES ARE STILL AVAILABLE.

LHM FOLLOWS AND INFORMATION COPIES OF LHM WILL BE FURNISHED WFO AND ALEXANDRIA IN THE EVENT THE BUREAU DESIRES FURTHER CHECKS WITH CIA AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE INTERROGATION WHEN THE '7 RETURNED FROM CUBA IN MARCH, 1962.

END

MP FBIHQ CLR