

Memorandum

8

TO : Mr. Gallagher

DATE: 9/15/76

FROM : B. H. Cooke

- 1 - Mr. Held
- 1 - Mr. Adams
- 1 - Mr. Gallagher
- 1 - Mr. O'Connell
- 1 - Mr. Cooke
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]
- 1 - Mr. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
 JOHN F. KENNEDY
 11/22/63
 DALLAS, TEXAS

- Assoc. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Fin. & Pers. _____
- Gen. Inv.
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Rec. Mgnt. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

GARRETT BROCK TRAPNELL
 INFORMATION CONCERNING

REC-72

PURPOSE: To record information regarding Garrett Brock Trapnell in anticipation of possible inquiries relating to information he furnished the FBI in 1963.

SYNOPSIS: [REDACTED] at the United States Penitentiary, Marion, Illinois, furnished copies of letters from [REDACTED] to Garrett Brock Trapnell and from Trapnell to [REDACTED] Trapnell and [REDACTED] are planning a book or magazine article based upon Trapnell's alleged knowledge of the Kennedy assassination plot which he furnished to the FBI in August of 1963. File review reveals Trapnell is a well-known criminal with numerous arrests including a conviction for aircraft hijacking. In August, 1963, he furnished information relating to an alleged Cuban plot to assassinate Attorney General Robert Kennedy. This information was thoroughly investigated and was determined to be without foundation. Attorney General Kennedy was furnished the results of this investigation. After the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas, Trapnell changed his previous story to include the name of Oswald. The allegation was again investigated without success and the results were furnished to the President's Commission on the assassination of President Kennedy. Trapnell has been diagnosed as having a mental disorder and he has been incarcerated in several mental institutions as well as serving extended periods in prison. He is currently serving a life sentence for aircraft hijacking at the United States Prison, Marion, Illinois

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information.

APPROVED: _____

Assoc. Dir. _____	Ext. Affairs _____	Laboratory _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____	Fin. & Pers. _____	Legal Co. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____	Gen. Inv. _____	Plan. & Eval. _____
Asst. Dir.:	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgnt. _____
Adm. Serv. _____	Inspection _____	Spec. Inv. _____
	Intell. _____	Training _____

LSB:sas
 (9)



EX-113

REC-72

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7568

SEP 21 1976

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Memorandum to Mr. Gallagher
Re: Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

DETAILS: On August 13, 1976, [REDACTED] United States Penitentiary, Marion, Illinois, furnished the Springfield Division a Xerox copy of a letter dated August 9, 1976, from one [REDACTED] Maryland, to inmate Garrett Brock Trapnell. The letter dealt with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and inquired of Trapnell what additional information he might possess concerning the assassination. The letter also indicated that Trapnell was interviewed by Bureau Agents while incarcerated in Kent County, Maryland, in 1963.

On August 17, 1976, [REDACTED] at Marion furnished a Xerox copy of an outgoing letter dated August 12, 1976, from Trapnell to [REDACTED]. In this letter Trapnell advised [REDACTED] that in 1963, he was associated with numerous Cuban exile groups in Miami, Florida, and during this association he came across the basic plans of an assassination attempt on either Robert Kennedy or John F. Kennedy.

The letters indicated that in view of the current congressional interest in alleged Cuban participation in assassination attempts upon United States leaders, Trapnell and [REDACTED] are exploring the possibility of using the Trapnell information as the basis for a book or magazine article.

[REDACTED] advised it is his interpretation of Bureau of Prison Correspondence Regulations that his staff can inspect all correspondence except mail from United States Courts, members of Congress or attorneys, for contraband and content, and that questionable letters may be referred to the warden for review. This interpretation is the basis upon which [REDACTED] made copies of the letters available to the FBI.

Bureau indices contain no reference to [REDACTED]. A review of numerous Bureau files revealed the following information regarding Garrett Brock Trapnell:

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Memorandum to M. J. Gallagher
Re: Assassination of President John F. Kennedy

On August 19, 1963, Trapnell was interviewed, at his request, at the Kent County, Maryland, Jail where he was incarcerated after his arrest on the basis of a warrant issued in Miami, Florida. Trapnell told of information he obtained regarding the planned assassination of Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. He advised that in May of 1963, he was contacted by a Cuban revolutionary group in Miami, Florida. This group consisted of Miguel Amador Fuentes, Antonio Ventura Bart, Bart's wife, Cecelia Bart and a Mr. Sousa. This group furnished him with a Russian made rifle and attempted to recruit him for their plot but he refused to take part and left the Miami area. Extensive investigation in Miami failed to identify Trapnell's coconspirators or to locate buildings allegedly used by the conspirators as meeting places. Contact with various exile groups was also unsuccessful in locating anyone who knew Trapnell or the other conspirators. Attorney General Kennedy was furnished the results of this investigation.

Trapnell was reinterviewed at the Clifton T. Perkins Hospital for Mental Defectives at Jessup, Maryland, on November 23, 1963, after he claimed to recognize a picture of Lee Harvey Oswald as one of the four persons he had previously reported as plotting to kill Attorney General Robert Kennedy. He said Oswald was introduced to him by the name Oswaldo. In this interview he named members of the group as Marta (first name unknown), Oswaldo and first name unknown (FNU); last name unknown (LNU). It is noted he had previously named the members of the group as Antonio Ventura Bart, Cecelia Bart, Miguel Amador Fuentes and FNU Sousa. It is further noted that Trapnell claimed to have been in the Army with Miguel Amador Fuentes but a review of Army records failed to show that Fuentes was ever in the Army. Trapnell later admitted the entire story about the alleged plot was a fabrication. The results of this investigation were furnished to the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy on January 13, 1964 and March 11, 1964.

Bureau files indicate Trapnell was deported from Cuba where he went after medical discharge from the Army in 1958. In 1961, he was arrested for Interstate Transportation of a Stolen Motor Vehicle and Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property and was removed to Miami. In 1962, he was a Selective Service delinquent and was located in the South Florida State Hospital where he was undergoing treatment, study and rehabilitation for mental disorders. In 1970, he was under investigation by Canadian authorities as a suspect in bank robberies in Nova Scotia. In 1971, he was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in Miami for transporting stolen emeralds into the United States. The charge was dismissed because of subject's insanity at the

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time of the crime. In 1972, he was charged with the armed robbery of an American Express Company and coin shops in Southern California. He was next arrested for Theft by Bailee, Unlawful Flight and ITSMV but the United States Attorney declined prosecution because of his mental state and because of other charges filed against him. In 1972, he was charged in Miami with transporting a stolen aircraft from Florida to Haiti. The United States Attorney declined because of prosecution pending on an aircraft hijacking charge. He was arrested in Dallas for posing as a constable and issuing tickets to motorists. He was operating a stolen automobile but the United States Attorney declined prosecution in favor of a local Impersonation charge.

In 1973, he was arrested again in a stolen automobile but the United States Attorney in Los Angeles declined prosecution in favor of local prosecution in Maryland. In 1972, Trapnell and two accomplices committed a \$10,000 armed robbery of the SS Princess Louise, a floating restaurant at Terminal Island, California. Trapnell was convicted in New York for the hijacking of a 707 airliner and received concurrent life, 20-year and 10-year sentences. While incarcerated at Leavenworth, Kansas, Trapnell and others formed a plan to free Trapnell from prison by hijacking a helicopter and landing on the prison grounds. The United States Attorney declined prosecution because Trapnell was already serving a life term. In 1974, Trapnell masterminded a plan to kidnap a foreign diplomat and demand \$250,000 ransom, his release from prison and asylum in Sweden. He was sentenced to an additional 15 years on this charge. He is currently incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary, Marion, Illinois.