



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Dallas, Texas  
April 5, 1977

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

On March 21, 1977, Tom Cordner, Semi-Conductor Building, Texas Instruments, Richardson, Texas, telephone 238-3885, advised that he works with a deaf mute by the name of Virgil E. Hoffman, who has a great deal of difficulty communicating but who has given him indications that he knows something concerning the President Kennedy Assassination.

A review of Dallas FBI files reflected the following information concerning Virgil E. Hoffman, as set forth in Dallas FBI memorandum dated June 28, 1967, captioned as above:

"On June 26, 1967, Mr. Jim Dowdy, 725 McLemore, Garland, Texas, supervisor at Texas Instruments, Dallas, Texas, advised a deaf mute, Virgil E. Hoffman, who is employed at Texas Instruments, had indicated he wanted to furnish information to Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. It was pointed out to Mr. Dowdy that Hoffman should put in writing in detail everything he saw the day of the assassination.

"On June 28, 1967, Virgil E. Hoffman appeared at the Dallas Office of the FBI and advised he resided at 424 Grand Prairie Road, Grand Prairie, Texas, and was employed at Texas Instruments, Dallas. He said he parked his automobile near the railroad tracks on Stemmons Freeway in

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62-17060-1111  
[ENCLOSURE]

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Dallas, north of the intersection of Stemmons Freeway and Elm Street, about 12:00 noon on November 22, 1963.

"Hoffman said he was standing a few feet south of the railroad on Stemmons Freeway when the motorcade passed him taking President Kennedy to Parkland Hospital. Hoffman said he observed two white males, clutching something dark to their chests with both hands, running from the rear of the Texas School Book Depository building. The men were running north on the railroad, then turned east, and Hoffman lost sight of both of the men.

"Approximately two hours after the above interview with Hoffman, he returned to the Dallas Office of the FBI and advised he had just returned from the spot on Stemmons Freeway where he had parked his automobile and had decided he could not have seen the men running because of a fence west of the Texas School Book Depository building. He said it was possible that he saw these two men on the fence or something else.

- "Hoffman said the only description he could furnish of the men was that one of them wore a white shirt. He stated he had discussed this matter with his father at the time of the assassination, and his father suggested that he not talk to anyone about this, but after thinking about what he saw, Hoffman stated he decided to tell the FBI."

The following information was set forth in Dallas FBI memorandum dated July 6, 1967:

"Virgil E. Hoffman was not interviewed prior to June 28, 1967.

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"On July 6, 1967, Roy S. Truly, Manager, Texas School Book Depository, advised there is a fence approximately 6 feet tall running from the parking lot west of the Texas School Book Depository for about 150 feet to the north of the Texas School Book Depository. This fence was constructed approximately two years prior to the assassination and has not been moved to date.

"On July 5, 1967, Mr. E. Hoffman, father of Virgil E. Hoffman, and Fred Hoffman, brother of Virgil Hoffman, were interviewed at 428 West Main Street, Grand Prairie, Texas. Both advised that Virgil Hoffman has been a deaf mute his entire life and has in the past distorted facts of events observed by him. Both the father and brother stated that Virgil Hoffman loved President Kennedy and had mentioned to them just after the assassination that he (Virgil Hoffman) was standing on the freeway near the Texas School Book Depository at the time of the assassination. Virgil Hoffman told them he saw numerous men running after the President was shot. The father of Virgil Hoffman stated that he did not believe that his son had seen anything of value and doubted he had observed any men running from the Texas School Book Depository and for this reason had not mentioned it to the FBI."

On March 21, 1977, Virgil E. Hoffman, 424 Grand Prairie Road, Grand Prairie, Texas, voluntarily appeared at the Dallas FBI Office and Special Agent [REDACTED] attempted to communicate with him. Special Agent [REDACTED] had a great deal of difficulty communicating with Mr. Hoffman since he is a deaf mute, does not read lips, and appears to be semi-illiterate in the reading and writing of the English language.

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Mr. Hoffman attempted to communicate the same basic information that he previously furnished to the Dallas FBI, as set forth in Dallas FBI memorandum dated June 28, 1967. In addition to that information, Hoffman attempted to communicate that he saw two men, one with a rifle and one with a handgun, behind a wooden fence at the moment he saw the presidential motorcade speed north on Stemmons Freeway. Hoffman made hand motions indicating that one of the men disassembled the rifle and placed it in a suitcase or similar container. Hoffman indicated that he saw smoke prior to that. The two men ran north on the railroad tracks and he lost sight of them.

Hoffman also made available a copy of the following letters: