



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana  
April 28, 1977

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

Mr. Ronald Lauderback, 525th Military Intelligence Group, United States Army, Fort Polk, Louisiana, telephonically contacted the Alexandria, Louisiana, Resident Agency and advised that [REDACTED] white male, of [REDACTED] Louisiana, had contacted his office and had advised he had some very important information concerning Lee Harvey Oswald and the Kennedy assassination. [REDACTED] had a magnetic tape in his possession which contained the information. An appointment was made to interview [REDACTED] at the Office of Military Intelligence, Fort Polk, on April 18, 1977.

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6-11701-111  
ENCLOSURE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 4/26/77

██████████ was contacted, at his request, at the Military Intelligence Office, Building 656, Fort Polk, Louisiana. He was informed of the identity of Special Agent ██████████ and thereafter related the following information:

██████████ advised he is currently residing with a girlfriend who he did not identify at ██████████ Louisiana. He stated that he did not wish to have his girlfriend identified and did not desire that she have any knowledge of his contact with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

██████████ is described as a white male, born ██████████, at ██████████ Louisiana. He retired from the U. S. Air Force in ██████████ after 20 years of military service. He is 5 feet 10 inches, 175 pounds, and has black hair and brown eyes. His permanent home address is ██████████, Louisiana, which is the residence address of his mother. He advised he is not currently employed.

██████████ advised that from ██████████ he was employed as a doorman at the ██████████, Bourbon Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Sometime in 1962, he saw an individual who he later identified as LEE HARVEY OSWALD. When he was first contacted by this individual he was working at the ██████████. The individual came to the ██████████ and asked for CLAY BERTRAND. ██████████ sent the individual to ██████████ who was the night manager of the ██████████ at that time. ██████████ currently owns and operates the ██████████ in New Orleans.

██████████ stated that the individual, who he later identified as OSWALD, talked with ██████████ for approximately one hour and then left the bar. As he was leaving ██████████ pointed out OSWALD to one of the barmaids and told her that he had just come back from behind the Iron Curtain. ██████████ overheard this remark and he observed OSWALD walk away from the ██████████. He was unable to identify the barmaid.

Interviewed on 4/18/77 at Fort Polk, Louisiana File # NO 89-69

by SA ██████████ dbr Date dictated 4/22/77

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Later the same evening [redacted] went to the Sho Bar which is located in the second block of Bourbon Street, New Orleans. When he arrived at the Sho Bar he saw an American known as "TIGER". He called to "TIGER" and "TIGER" responded by beating him. "TIGER" made a statement that he [redacted] "knows about us". This statement was made to a Cuban known as "PEPE". "PEPE" is currently somewhere in Florida. [redacted] believes that "TIGER" was talking with OSWALD at the Sho Bar when he arrived. [redacted] stated that he did not overhear any of the conversation between "TIGER" and OSWALD.

After [redacted] had been beaten by "TIGER" he departed from the Sho Bar and went home. He did not report the beating to anyone; however, he suffered two black eyes from this incident.

Approximately two months later [redacted] was on duty as doorman at the [redacted] when an automobile drove up and parked in a no parking zone. He went to the automobile to tell the driver that he could not park his automobile in that location and he [redacted] was hit in the face by one of the occupants and was told to "shut up". There were five or six individuals in this automobile. The automobile had Texas license plates. Following the slapping incident, one of the occupants was heard to say, "JACK, what did you do that for". The automobile then left the area and [redacted] stated that he did not think too much about the incident and believed at that time that he had been slapped by a tourist.

[redacted] advised that he realized that he had seen OSWALD and JACK RUBY in New Orleans, as he observed RUBY and OSWALD on television. This television broadcast was of the incident in which RUBY shot OSWALD. [redacted] stated that he mentioned to his wife that he had seen both of these individuals in New Orleans.

[redacted] related that he had actually seen OSWALD twice in New Orleans. The second time he saw OSWALD was approximately six months prior to the KENNEDY assassination. On the second contact with OSWALD, [redacted] saw him in a room at the [redacted] OSWALD was with four or five other individuals. The only individual that [redacted] recognized was [redacted] explained that he had gone to pick up his paycheck from [redacted] and observed the individuals in a room. He did not overhear any conversation and left the room after getting his check.

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In 1968, [REDACTED] observed a picture of [REDACTED] in a newspaper. He learned that District Attorney JIM GARRISON had talked with [REDACTED] in connection with GARRISON's investigation of the KENNEDY assassination and that [REDACTED] had claimed that he did not know a CLAY BERTRAND.

[REDACTED] then contacted GARRISON's office and made arrangements to talk with Mr. GARRISON. [REDACTED] stated that he talked with Mr. GARRISON and that during the conversation he related the aforementioned information concerning his contacts with OSWALD and RUBY. [REDACTED] advised that he did not testify and was not called as a witness by GARRISON; however, he did make a telephone call to [REDACTED] from GARRISON's telephone. During the telephone conversation [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] if he knew CLAY BERTRAND or OSWALD. [REDACTED] denied knowing either individual and then, after additional conversation, [REDACTED] said that CLAY BERTRAND was the name that CLAY SHAW had used for years. [REDACTED] stated that this conversation was recorded by GARRISON.

[REDACTED] further advised that [REDACTED] owns the [REDACTED] and that this establishment is operated for [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. In addition, they also operated the [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] for [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] advised that approximately one year ago he had placed some information on magnetic tapes. He stated that he made two tapes in either May or June, 1976, and that he sent one of these tapes to Senator SCHWEIKER in Washington, D. C. The other tape remained in his possession.

[REDACTED] stated he desired to loan his tape to the Federal Bureau of Investigation so that the FBI would have the information. Thereafter, one magnetic tape was furnished to [REDACTED] by [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] advised that he desired his information be made available to the appropriate Congressional Committee in Washington, D. C., and requested that his tape be returned directly to him via mail when it was no longer being used. He stated that the tape should be mailed to him at

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[REDACTED] Louisiana. He also advised that he was available to testify before any Congressional Committee concerning this matter and any contacts to be made with him in this regard should be directed to his attention at [REDACTED] Louisiana, telephone number [REDACTED]

He advised that he should not be contacted at [REDACTED] Louisiana, as he did not know how long he would remain in that city. He did not know where he would be going if he should leave [REDACTED] Louisiana, and stated that his contact point would be his mother at [REDACTED] Louisiana.

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The following information was furnished to SA [REDACTED] on April 18, 1977, on magnetic tape by [REDACTED]. This tape was pre-recorded by [REDACTED] and is as follows:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Connecticut.

My name is [REDACTED] and I am, capital [REDACTED] apostrophe, Capital [REDACTED]. I'm I'm talkin to you now about what I called your house uh, back on the telephone at your office rather, I'm sorry, and told you about, and told you about, and told some man in your office about uh, what I know about the Kennedy assassination. Well, sir, three years, [REDACTED] rather, I worked at the [REDACTED] in New Orleans. A very nice restaurant, and one night about a, about 1962 this gentleman walks up to me and he asks me if a CLAY BERTRAND works there. I told him I didn't know any CLAY BERTRAND. At that time it was a secret name and I never knew it. At that time that was before the Kennedy assassination and I there's no reason to suspect anything. So, I told him I didn't know no CLAY BERTRAND workin there so he at that time the night manager was in the tavern. I hollered [REDACTED] his name was [REDACTED]. I said [REDACTED] I said "Do we have a CLAY BERTRAND workin here?", and [REDACTED] said tell the young man I'll speak to him. So the man went into the tavern and he was talking to [REDACTED] for about an hour. And I was standin there in front of the door trying to help the people into the tavern which was my job besides door openin up cab doors, and uh, as the man walked out [REDACTED] told one of the waitresses standin (UNINTELLIGIBLE) he says, "See that young man that just come back from behind the Iron Curtain". Well it was OSWALD but at that time I didn't know didn't suspect anything. Then, well on another thing, about about two weeks before the assass...about three weeks rather before the assassination I went up there one day to get my..my check. It was on a Saturday and uh, they told me [REDACTED] was upstairs in the storeroom. I went up there where they told me he was and there was five men in there with him and OSWALD was one of em. He was layin across the bed. And uh, this pilot, (UNINTELLIGIBLE NAME) was the other one. I seen him come frequently into the [REDACTED]. I've seen him there frequently. And there was that Cuban fellow with him. And I, so uh, uh, I spoke to them and [REDACTED] handed me my check and I walked out. And as I was

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walkin out, one of the guys, I don't know what he said, but he made some kind of a remark and I just kept on walkin. And I was, so, sort of a joke, so uh, I didn't pay any attention to it, and then the assassination of President Kennedy came along and I looked at OSWALD just before he got shot by RUBY and like I told my wife, she was sittin there then, my wife died just three years ago. I said "That man was in the [REDACTED] I have seen him before". I didn't figure out who it was until 1968 when JIM GARRISON, then the District Attorney in New Orleans, since then he's been framed and out of his office by the gamblers and racketeers in New Orleans framed the man and I know it. So, uh, cause they were in on this I feel. So uh, he uh, had [REDACTED] up in his office. I read in the paper in my home town in [REDACTED] Louisiana, that's where I'm from originally, and he said uh, uh, asked [REDACTED] if he knew a CLAY BERTRAND. Well, [REDACTED] accordin to the papers said he didn't know no CLAY BERTRAND. Well I knew he was lyin right there. So I called up a friend of mine who was workin in the District Attorney's Office at the time named [REDACTED] (PHONETIC), Italian fellow and a good friend of mine. And [REDACTED] told me that he would send for me. I was living in [REDACTED] Mississippi at the time, and he want me to make the Sheriff take a polygraph test. Well I did and my polygraph test come out negative. And he said I'd hear from him again but in the mean time JIM GARRISON was uh, was uh, was all of a sudden out of office and that's the last I heard of that. So I been scared to come forward again so now I'm comin to you because well, my wife died about three years ago as I said and there's nothin else for me to do but try to straighten this out. It's been on my mind for so long and I've nothin to worry about but myself do what they want with me. But if you'll would like my statement I would gladly go over there and take a polygraph test with y'all anyway you wanna do it to show you that I'm not lyin about this, but, anyhow, JIM GARRISON, JIM GARRISON had uh [REDACTED] come over to his office. [REDACTED] wouldn't take no polygraph test. [REDACTED] denied knowing at first then he said he remembered me. Actually over over the telephone when I had the phone book and I was speakin to [REDACTED] at the time at his place of business. He now owns a nightclub which he didn't, I used to have to loan him a shirt to go to work with. When when he, while, I don't know what he was mixed up in. And another thing is there was a bunch of Cubans workin down there at the [REDACTED] and much, some looked like young hoods or young guys, and they all stuck together in a group, and one night I went out to the Sho Bar. I was righ, the same

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night, in fact it was the same night that I saw OSWALD. I went to the Sho Bar that night and uh, one of the doorman over there, the one that got me the job at the [REDACTED], I only know him by "TIGER" and he's from Key West, Florida. A friend of mine, then I walked into the Sho Bar which is a club that's owned by the same people that own the [REDACTED]. And I said "Hi TIGER" and he walks up to me and he starts beatin up on me. Well naturally I get out of the place. I didn't know what was goin on. As I got to the door one of the Cuban boys that he knew pretty well named "PEPE", I knew him too, he said "PEPE" grabbed him and he said "Leave him alone TIGER", and "TIGER" said "But he knows about us". Now, I don't know what he was talkin about. I have a pretty good idea thought becuae it was the same night that I saw OSWALD and there was this, some other guy in there with "TIGER" at the time. I don't, I don't don't know who, I didn't see who it was very well cause everything happened all of a sudden. Now I'm gonna give you my address cause I'm running short on tape. My address is [REDACTED] (PHONETIC) Street, [REDACTED] Louisiana, La., and my phone number is [REDACTED] area code [REDACTED], but I'm living right now with my cousin in [REDACTED] at uh, [REDACTED] My phone number there is [REDACTED]. That's in care, IF, after hearing this tape if you care to talk to me any further you can reach me at one of those two places. Yours truly, [REDACTED]



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On April 20, 1977, Deputy [REDACTED] Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office, DeRidder, Louisiana, advised a search of the records of her office and the records of the DeRidder Police Department failed to locate information identifiable with [REDACTED]

The files of the New Orleans Office of the FBI indicate that [REDACTED] Mississippi, furnished information to the FBI in which he alleged that an unknown individual with whom he hitchhiked on April 9, 1968, in [REDACTED] Mississippi, was involved in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King. [REDACTED] claimed that the driver was suspicious and was upset when [REDACTED] mentioned the subject of King's assassination. [REDACTED] furnished no additional information as to why he suspected the unknown individual, and he stated that he has also dreamed about how the true killer might eliminate this individual, so that he could not further identify the killer. [REDACTED] viewed photographs of James Earl Ray and stated that the unknown individual with whom he hitchhiked was not James Earl Ray.