

File (44-1987)

5/17/68

ASAC C. O. HALTER

MURKIN

NICHOLAS A. CHRISS, Houston, Texas representative, "Los Angeles Times," and GEORGE REASONS of the Los Angeles Office of the "Los Angeles Times," contacted me in the Memphis Office the afternoon of 5/17/68.

Mr. CHRISS produced a 2-page memorandum containing information obtained from an informant of the "Los Angeles Times" in Los Angeles. CHRISS permitted his memorandum being copied on the Xerox machine and the copy is being made a part of the Memphis file.

The information furnished by the informant as to the manner in which the murder was committed, information regarding cars used, and the murder weapon is completely contrary to facts developed during the FBI investigation.

Mr. CHRISS stated this information had been made available in Los Angeles to the SAC of the FBI Office and that the boss of Mr. CHRISS in Los Angeles had directed that the information be made available to the FBI in Memphis.

Mr. CHRISS wanted to know if the FBI would keep him informed of the results of checking out the information furnished by the informant and if the information checked out, if the FBI could give him an off-the-record comment to the effect that the FBI might be making a release on the information. CHRISS was most interested in being in a position to publish any information first which might be developed from the information furnished by the "Times" informant.

I made it clear to Messrs. CHRISS and REASONS that I could not make any commitment to them about being able to inform them

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concerning results of the investigation conducted by the FBI. I informed them that it is contrary to the policy of this Bureau to make statements concerning results of investigation as a general matter. I reminded these gentlemen of the fact that all statements made regarding this case had originated with the FBI or Attorney General in Washington, D. C.

CHRISS and REASONS stated they would be checking again with this office from time to time to determine whether any information could be released in connection with any action taken by the FBI based upon the information furnished by the "Times" informant.