



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Houston, Texas

November 28, 1963

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY, NOVEMBER 22,
1963, DALLAS, TEXAS
INFORMATION CONCERNING

VANDALISM IN SCHOOLS IN HOUSTON AREA
INFORMATION CONCERNING

On November 27, 1963, Mr. GERALD JONES, Principal, Ralph Anderson Elementary School, 5727 Ludington, Houston, Texas, advised that, in light of the President's assassination, he thought the following information should be made available. He stated that on three separate incidents, all of which are similar in nature, took place at the above school. He stated that between Friday evening, November 22, 1963, and Sunday morning, November 24, 1963, American flags in the school were torn down. He stated the flags were again torn down on Sunday afternoon, November 24, 1963, and on this occasion, they were cut into ribbons. Again, between Monday evening and Tuesday morning, November 26, 1963, they were torn down and were stained with ink and duplicator liquids.

Mr. JONES said he could supply no additional information concerning the reasons or the persons involved in the commission of these acts.

The Houston Press for November 27, 1963, contained

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Re: Vandalism

and article entitled "Vandals Desecrate Flag, Constitution". This article set out that vandals apparently deliberately desecrated every American Flag and a framed copy of the United States Constitution in three separate break-ins at the Ralph Anderson Elementary School in the Westbury Addition of Houston, Texas.

GERALD JONES, Principal of the school, is attributed as saying that this seems to be an act of anti-Americanism. The flag of the United States and the state flag of Texas were targets throughout the school in these acts of desecration.

JONES is further attributed with having stated that a framed copy of the Constitution of the United States was torn from the wall of the school's library and had been battered against furniture, thrown on the floor, stomped upon and ripped into threads.

JONES stated that everyone of the eight American Flags hanging in the school's classrooms had been torn down, thrown to the floor and some had been smeared with paint. In addition to the reviling of the flags, the school was turned into turmoil by the vandals, who wrote obscene words across the walls, and a great number of books were pulled from cases and thrown about the building in wild disorder. The initials "K.C.S." were scribbled on the floors, in lipstick. The clock in the principal's office was pried from the walls and its parts strewn about the office. Desks were ransacked and ink poured on vast amounts of paper. Fire extinguishers were turned upside down and their chemicals emptied on the floors, walls and ceilings and on books:

JONES was attributed as having stated that it is the desecration of the flags and the Constitution that hurts so deeply. It is apparent, he said, that we have to do a better job of instilling some of the basic American concepts in our young people than we have done in the past.

The article advised that Juvenile Division Captain C. P. ANDERSON is investigating this matter and stated that the initials "K.C.S." have also been painted outside of a Houston Police Substation in the general area of the Anderson Elementary School and on the exterior of the

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Johnson Junior High School in the same general area.

Officer T. J. HOLLINGSHEAD is reported to have stated that the initials "K.C.S." stand for "King Cutters", reportedly the mark of a gang of youths between the ages of 14 and 16.

The Houston Post for November 28, 1963, carried an article entitled "Less Than Fifteen Students Cheered, LANDRUM says". This article stated that Dr. H. M. LANDRUM Superintendent of the Spring Branch School District, had commented that the only cheers reported to his office came from "less than 15" of the 2800 students at Memorial High School. He stated that approximately 22,000 students attend classes in that school district and all but a tiny minority shared the nation-wide reaction to the death of President KENNEDY. Dr. LANDRUM is attributed to have stated that suddenly changing from prejudice to sorrow may be hard for an immature youngster, who has heard bitter political criticism of a man for three or four years. The cheering was probably just a spontaneous result of what the student had been hearing in their homes.