

CI 62-2758

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RE: EDWARD RICHARD HELTON, Hamilton, Ohio

T. CLARKE:

The following investigation was conducted by SA ERNEST

[redacted], Hamilton, Ohio, advised on December 2, 1963, that he was at Hoppies Gardens at 902 Greenwood Avenue, Hamilton, from about 7:30 to 8:15 PM on December 1, 1963. The only other individuals present in the bar at the time were the owner, WALTER NEWMAN, who was tending bar; LESTER LONG, JR., 911 Greenwood Avenue; and EDWARD HELTON, 920 Vine Street. *Hamilton, Ohio* *Edward R. Helton*

[redacted] was seated toward the end of the bar and standing at the extreme end was EDWARD HELTON. [redacted] Hamilton, did not know HELTON and made no conversation with him. HELTON commented to [redacted], "We spent 1½ million dollars getting rid of KENNEDY." [redacted] made no comment and prepared to move to another part of the bar when HELTON stated, "I contributed \$100 of the 1½ million."

[redacted] joined LESTER LONG, JR., further down the bar. HELTON walked over to them and said that it would take four million dollars to get rid of "Johnson."

[redacted] said that he and LONG ignored HELTON who then returned to his end of the bar and announced that he would bet \$50 that "Johnson" would not finish his term. WALTER NEWMAN, bartender, who overheard this, threw \$50 on the bar in front of HELTON and said, "Put your money where your mouth is." HELTON replied that he did not really want to bet.

[redacted] advised that HELTON was sipping 3.2% beer while in the bar and was in the bar [redacted]

WALTER NEWMAN was interviewed on December 2, 1963, and he furnished the following information:

EDWARD HELTON, a resident in the neighborhood, has a reputation for being a braggart and a "pop-off." He is a loner and has no close friends or associates. He was in Hoppies Gardens from approximately 7:30 to 8:30 PM, December 1, 1963, at which time Mr. NEWMAN overheard him announce that he would bet \$50 that President JOHNSON would not complete his term.

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Mr. NEWMAN said he immediately covered the bet and Mr. HELTON backed down.

Mr. HELTON had been drinking and had a total of three beers while at the bar. Mr. NEWMAN stated he heard no other comment made by HELTON and he stated HELTON left shortly thereafter.

Mr. NEWMAN states he did not consider statements made by HELTON to be responsible. He stated HELTON has been in no trouble to his knowledge; holds membership in the Monkeys Mutual Aid Society of Hamilton, which is a social fraternal organization which provides an insurance benefit. He stated there is no question as to the loyalty of the members of this organization and he has never had reason to suspect the loyalty of HELTON.