



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Dallas, Texas
March 31, 1964

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

Under date of March 16, 1964, the President's Commission advised that ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND had appeared before the President's Commission on March 10, 1964, and testified concerning an individual who, according to ROWLAND, was standing behind the southwest window on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building.

In addition to this information, however, Mr. ROWLAND advised the President's Commission that approximately five minutes before the Presidential motorcade reached the corner of Elm and Houston Streets in Dallas, Texas, ROWLAND observed an "elderly Negro" at the southeast corner window, sixth floor, which is the window from which the shots were supposed to have been fired. Mr. ROWLAND stated that he might be able to identify the Negro person whom he saw, although he did not definitely say that he would do so. As a further description, ROWLAND stated that the person "was very thin, an elderly gentleman, bald or practically bald, thin hair if he was not bald, and wearing a plaid shirt."

The President's Commission letter stated that ROWLAND had indicated the plaid shirt was red and green and very bright colored as that is why he remembered it. He estimated the individual's age at "50, possibly 55 or 60." As to his complexion, ROWLAND stated it was "very dark or fairly dark, not real dark compared to some Negroes, but fairly dark. Seemed like his face was either--I can't recall detail but it was either very wrinkled or marked in some way." The President's Commission letter advised that during the course of his testimony, Mr. ROWLAND also provided the President's Commission with certain information about himself. He stated that he has an IQ of 147 and that through his junior year in high school he had a straight "A" average, but he

100-2876
ENCLOSURE

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

and a boy by the name of ARNOLD ROWLAND, 2746 Brooklyn Street, Dallas, were planning to be married, and Mr. WALKER had heard they were going to run away to Arkansas to be married. He stated the couple his daughter left their home with lived at 3602 Mt. Pleasant Street, Dallas, Texas. Mr. WALKER stated he called the ROSSEAUS on May 11, 1963, and asked if they knew the present whereabouts of his daughter. He was advised the ROSSEAUS had merely picked her up and transported her to the residence of a lady living at 2746 Brooklyn Street, who was a relative of ARNOLD ROWLAND. Mr. WALKER stated he was of the opinion his daughter was in Arkansas and requested FBI assistance in locating her.

It is to be noted ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND's wife is BARBARA FAYE ROWLAND.

Mr. WILLIAM H. SHELLEY, Foreman, Texas School Book Depository (TSBD), 411 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas, on March 23, 1964, furnished the following information:

Mr. SHELLEY stated that in his capacity as foreman at the TSBD he was fully acquainted with all employees in the book section of this company. Mr. SHELLEY was furnished a description of the Negro male as furnished the President's Commission by ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND and, from the description, Mr. SHELLEY stated the only possible persons this description could fit employed by the TSBD or working in this building were TROY EUGENE WEST or EDDIE PIPER.

Mr. SHELLEY advised that TROY EUGENE WEST was employed by the TSBD as a mail wrapper and as such generally worked at the mail rack located on the first floor of the TSBD Building.

Mr. SHELLEY stated that EDDIE PIPER was employed as a janitor in the TSBD Building and generally came to work later than other employees, arriving at this building generally about 10:00 A.M. and working until about 7:00 P.M.

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

Mr. SHELLEY advised he does not remember whether either of these employees wore a red and green shirt, very bright in color, on November 22, 1963, and does not remember either of these employees leaving the first floor of the TSBD Building on this date:

On March 23, 1964, Mr. EDDIE PIPER, 1507½ McCoy Street, Dallas, Texas, was interviewed at the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) Building, 411 Elm Street, and at the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and furnished the following information:

Mr. PIPER voluntarily agreed to have his photograph taken and the following photographs were taken of him at the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

1. Full-length full-face photograph
2. Left side full-length photograph
3. Right side full-length photograph

Mr. PIPER stated he was employed as a janitor for the TSBD and had been so employed for over five years. He stated he seldom worked on the sixth floor of the TSBD Building and did not go to this floor at any time on November 22, 1963.

Mr. PIPER stated at the time President KENNEDY was shot, he was eating lunch on the first floor of the TSBD Building and was near the southwest corner of this building looking out a window in an attempt to observe the Presidential motorcade. He stated he was alone at this time.

Mr. PIPER stated that on November 22, 1963, he did not own a red and green shirt and did not wear a red and green-colored shirt on this date. He advised he wore glasses at all times while working and only removed the glasses to sleep.

The following descriptive data was obtained through interrogation and observation:

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

Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Born	January 23, 1908, Travis County, Texas
Height	5'10"
Weight	140 pounds
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Brown
Build	Slender
Facial characteristics	Wears mustache; no scars or marks visible

On March 23, 1964, TROY EUGENE WEST, 5314 Colonial Street, Dallas, Texas, was interviewed at the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD) Building, 411 Elm Street, and at the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and furnished the following information:

Mr. WEST voluntarily agreed to have his photograph taken and photographs of him were obtained at the Dallas Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as follows:

1. A full-face full-length photograph
2. A left face full-length photograph
3. A right face full-length photograph

Mr. WEST stated he was employed at the TSBD as a mail wrapper and as such generally worked at the mail rack located on the first floor of the TSBD Building. He advised in addition to his duties as a mail wrapper he made coffee for the employees working for the TSBD. He advised on November 22, 1963, he worked at the mail rack on the first floor of the TSBD Building and never left the first floor of this building on this date. He stated when he went to work on November 22, 1963, he prepared coffee as he usually does, and at the time President KENNEDY was shot on this date he was preparing another pot of coffee for the employees of this building. He advised he was alone at the time

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

working at the coffee pot located on the first floor of the TSBD Building.

Mr. WEST stated he did not own a red and green-colored shirt and had never worn such a shirt to work.

The following descriptive data was obtained through interrogation and observation:

Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Born	March 11, 1907, Leon County, Texas
Height	5'9½"
Weight	155 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark
Build	Medium
Facial characteristics	Wears mustache, no visible scars or marks

On March 23, 1964, [REDACTED] W. H. Adamson High School, 9th and Beckley Streets, Dallas, Texas, furnished the following information:

[REDACTED] stated that a review of High School Pupil's Permanent Record, Dallas Independent School District, reflects that ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND was last residing at 1604 Carson Street, Dallas, Texas, and was born at Corpus Christi, Texas, on April 20, 1945. He entered the Dallas Independent School District from Salem, Oregon. These records further reflect that ARNOLD's father was ARNOLD PATRICK ROWLAND, and his mother's maiden name was BERTIE M. BROWN and her last known name was Mrs. CLYDE TIDMORE.

These records reflect that ROWLAND was given an IQ test in 1959 and scored [REDACTED] on this test. In addition to the IQ test, ROWLAND was given the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

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

in the spring of 1963 and scored 127 on this test. [redacted] stated this test was given in two parts throughout the United States and those scoring sufficiently high grades on the first examination were subsequently given a second examination. He stated ROWLAND did not score sufficiently high on the first examination to qualify him to take the second examination. A third test, Iowa Test of Educational Development, was administered to ROWLAND while at Adamson High School and he scored in the 94 percentile group on this examination.

[redacted] stated the records of the Dallas Independent School District, Adamson High School, reflect the following grades for ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND:

School		Adamson							
Session		1959		Term				Fall	
Subject	Class	1st	2nd	3rd	Ex.	Avg.	Crdt.	TEACHER	
			Report						
Eng.	1				E	E	1/2	ROCHETT	
El. Civ.		B	B	B	B	B	1/2	REEVES	
Alg.	1			C	C	C	1/2	WAITS	
Gen. Sc.	1				C	C	1/2	HEAD	
Date of Entrance 1-18-60									

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

School Crozier Tech

Session 1960 Term Spring

Subject	Class	1st	2nd	3rd	Ex.	Avg.	Crdt.	TEACHER
			Report					

Eng.	2	C	B	B	C	B	1/2	EWING
Alg.	2	E	E	C	A	D	1/2	DENSON
Span.	1	F	E	F	F	F	no	MALLOW
Gen. Sc.	2	E	F	E	C	E	1/2	FOSTER
Radio	1	E	A	C	D	C	1/2	CANNON
H.I. Mil.						D	1/4	MOSES
Absent		9	8	8				

Date of Entrance 2-1-60

School Crozier Tech

Session 1960 Term Fall

Subject	Class	1st	2nd	3rd	Ex.	Avg.	Crdt.	TEACHER
			Report					

Eng.	3	C	B	B	B	B	1/2	COLE
Geom.	1	B	A	A	A	A	1/2	COWGILL
M. Dr.	2	B	A	A	A	A	1/2	J. MURRAY
Radio	2	A	A	A	B	A	1/2	CANNON
Type.	1	B	A	B	B	B	1/2	YOAKUM
Ph. Ed.						A	1/8	QUESENBERY
Absent		3	2	1				

Date of Entrance 9-7-60

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

██████████ advised that ROWLAND had enrolled for the spring session of the 1962 class but was dropped on March 19, 1962, for non-attendance of classes. He also enrolled for the fall term of the 1962 session but was dropped on December 8, 1962, for non-attendance. No grades or credits for any classes were given ROWLAND during these two terms because of the lack of attendance.

School		Term						
Crozier Tech		1963	Spring					
Subject	Class	1st	2nd	3rd	Ex.	Avg.	Crdt.	TEACHER
		Report						
Eng.	8	D	C					RAYNES
W. Hist.	2	B	A					REGELSKY
Geom.	3	F	A					COWGILL
Photog.	1	C	C					MURRAY
Phys.	2	F	F					FOSTER
Ph. Ed.								QUESENBERRY
Absent		13						Dropped 3-18-63
				3				

School		Term						
Crozier Tech		1963	Fall					
Subject	Class	1st	2nd	3rd	Ex.	Avg.	Crdt.	TEACHER
		Report						
Eng.	7	C						No Cr.
Civ.	3	B						No Cr.
Alg.	4	F						No Cr.
Pub. Spk.	5	A						No Cr.
								Dropped 11-21-63

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

[redacted] advised that his records reflect ROWLAND attended Topeka High School, Topeka, Kansas, during an unknown period of time, probably during the spring or fall term of the 1962 school year. Topeka High School transferred 1/2 credit for History B and 1/8 credit for Phys. Ed., to the Dallas Independent School District for ROWLAND.

[redacted] stated that ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND was refused admittance into the Adamson High School for the spring session of 1963 because of his past record at this school. ROWLAND applied for admission at N. R. Crozier Technical High School for this session after being refused admission at Adamson High School and attended Crozier Tech for a short time during 1963.

[redacted] stated that Adamson High School offered no special sound courses and to his knowledge neither did Crozier Tech. He stated he could not imagine any course of study in any of the high schools of the Dallas Independent School District doing research or special work in sound and study of echo effects.

[redacted] stated he had two students accepted by Rice Institute out of the entire class graduating in 1963. These students learned they had been accepted by Rice about two weeks prior to graduation from high school and both students were outstanding in citizenship and scholastic accomplishments. He stated he seriously doubted that Southern Methodist University, Texas A&M, or Rice Institute had accepted ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND for admission into the respective institutes inasmuch as he has not graduated from an accredited high school in the State of Texas.

[redacted] advised he had counseled ROWLAND while he was attending Adamson High School on various occasions because of his absenteeism from this school. He stated he learned from contact with ROWLAND that he (ROWLAND) would not hesitate to fabricate a story if it were of any benefit for ROWLAND to do so. [redacted] gave as an example an incident that occurred while

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

ROWLAND was attending Adamsen High School. ROWLAND drove a Volkswagen automobile to school and on occasions parked in the teachers' parking area. This Volkswagen automobile was repossessed by a finance company one afternoon during school hours and after school ROWLAND reported to [redacted] that his car had been stolen. He asked [redacted] what action he was going to take regarding the theft and [redacted] advised him that since it was his (ROWLAND's) car he should report it to the police and that he was welcome to use the school telephone to make this report. ROWLAND used the telephone briefly and then left [redacted] office. [redacted] stated he thought the conversation was very short for such an incident and, therefore, he [redacted] called the Dallas Police Department Auto Theft Bureau and asked if they had received a report from anyone at Adamsen High School reporting the theft of a vehicle. [redacted] stated he was advised that the Police Department was aware that a finance company in Dallas was repossessing a Volkswagen from this school's parking lot but that there was no theft and they had received no calls from ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND or anyone else at the school concerning the Volkswagen.

[redacted] stated ROWLAND was not a problem student in that he caused trouble or agitated other students, but he did request almost on a daily basis special privileges and seemed to have the attitude that he was superior to most of the teachers and all other students. [redacted] stated he advised the Secret Service Agents attempting to locate ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND just prior to his appearance before the President's Commission that anything ROWLAND might tell the President's Commission would be questionable. He stated he so informed the Secret Service Agents based on his past experience with ROWLAND.

On March 23, 1964, [redacted] N. R. Crozier Technical High School, Bryan and Live Oak Streets, Dallas, advised this school had no records concerning ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND, although he did attend this school. Mr. SCHIEBEL advised that all records pertaining to ROWLAND had been transferred to the W. H. Adamsen High School, 9th and Beckley Streets, Dallas. He

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

very basic study and in no way consisted of special study of sound and echo effects. [REDACTED] stated that ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND took no special course from him, nor was he enrolled in any special class studying sound and echo effects. He stated that ROWLAND did not pass the regular physics course at Crozier Technical High School.

On March 24, 1964, [REDACTED] Registrar's Office, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, advised that a check of the records of this institution failed to disclose any information pertaining to ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND. She advised that if ROWLAND had applied for admission to this institution, she would have a record of the application and a file concerning ROWLAND. She further advised that ROWLAND could not have been accepted by Southern Methodist University without first having graduated from an accredited high school in the State of Texas or from a high school outside the state and completing Southern Methodist University examinations for admittance. She stated that in no event could ROWLAND have gained admittance to this University without a high school transcript which had not been filed with this University.

On March 24, 1964, [REDACTED] Finn and Finn-Optometrists, Fidelity Union Tower Building, 1507 Pacific, Dallas, Texas, advised that a check of the records of this firm covering the past fifteen years fails to reflect any information indicating that ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND had ever been examined by this firm. [REDACTED] advised that a record is kept on each patient examined and had ROWLAND been examined, his name would be in the files of this firm.

[REDACTED] stated he was at a loss to explain how his firm's name had been obtained by ARNOLD LOUIS ROWLAND, but stated that his firm was housed in a central location in Dallas and was generally known by most residents of this city.