

DL 89-43

RE: GREGORIO VALDEZ

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SA 19-48

The following investigation was conducted by SA
E. JONES at San Antonio:

On November 22, 1963, CLAUDE WAYNE COWAN, 1702
Innipeg, San Antonio, Texas, telephonically contacted
the San Antonio FBI Office and advised that his mother
had been to the Shamrock Service Station #25, located at
the corner of Nogolitas and Hearne in San Antonio at which
time she had mentioned to the Mexican assistant manager
that President KENNEDY had been assassinated. This Mexican
man told her "I heard they were going to get him in Dallas".

Mr. COWAN said that he had no additional information
concerning this, and that his mother did not know the name
of the Mexican man with whom she had talked.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/30/64

GREGORIO VALDEZ, 150 Manning Drive, Assistant Manager of Shamrock service station number 25, Nogalitas and Hearne Avenue, advised that he recalled a woman customer who came into the station on the afternoon of November 22, 1963, and was talking about the President's assassination in Dallas.

He stated that he did not make any statement to the effect that he had heard that "they were going to get him" nor did he have any information of that kind. He said that if he did know anything about it he would be happy to cooperate.

On 11/23/63 at San Antonio, Texas File # SA 89-67

by SAs JOSEPH E. JONES & HAROLD LEO FABRIZ/cjn:csh Date dictated 11/23/63

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LA 89-75
JCA:mjg

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JESUS VEGA

On November 23, 1963, Mr. E. H. SHIRLEY, 24725 Pennsylvania Avenue, Lomita, California, a guard at the Areca Plant, 24751 Crenshaw Boulevard, Torrance, California, advised he was told by one KENNETH BRAASCH, an employee of the plant, on November 23, 1963, that a Cuban who works with BRAASCH's son at the plant told the son he knew several weeks ago that KENNEDY was going to get killed.

On November 23, 1963, Mr. KENNETH DON BRAASCH, 2411 Alvard Lane, North Redondo Beach, California, advised he is employed by Douglas Aircraft Corporation, Torrance, California. He stated that approximately two weeks ago, one of the employees of Douglas, JESUS VEGA, said, "After the trouble in Viet Nam, I wouldn't be surprised if something didn't happen here". There was no mention made of President KENNEDY. The remark was construed by BRAASCH to be a general statement that perhaps there would be trouble in this country over the situation in South Viet Nam. BRAASCH did not construe it to have any connection with the assassination of President KENNEDY.

DL 89-43
RJD/ds

Re: CHARLES STEARNS VENTERS, ALSO
KNOWN AS "BUSTER"

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NR 62-3060
DL 89-43
RFH:mab

RE CECIL E. MUNN and BUSTER VENTERS

MAXINE and LESLIE G. EVERITT, JR., Cherry Brook Drive, RD #4, Princeton, New Jersey, telephonically advised SA NORMAN A. HENDRICKS on December 2, 1963, that LESLIE EVERITT's foster brother, CECIL E. MUNN, 2101 Ward Parkway, Fort Worth, Texas, a prominent attorney in Fort Worth, telephonically contacted MAXINE EVERITT on the evening of December 1, 1963, and told her he was leaving for Fort Worth from New York, where he had attended some meeting. LESLIE EVERITT was not home, and MUNN told MAXINE to tell him he called and to mention that he heard from an old schoolmate of EVERITT and his (MUNN's). He said this schoolmate was BUSTER VENTERS, formerly of 1900 West Broadway, Enid, Oklahoma.

Mr. MUNN allegedly stated that immediately following the assassination of President KENNEDY, he received a telephone call at his home in Fort Worth from VENTERS, who claimed he was in a pay telephone booth in Hollywood, California. VENTERS allegedly said that he believed that FIDEL CASTRO of Cuba was responsible for KENNEDY's assassination, and he wanted to assassinate CASTRO, and he wondered if MUNN would help him do this. VENTERS also allegedly said that he had been in trouble. MAXINE EVERITT said that MUNN told her that he thought it was a joke, and he treated it as such in his conversation with VENTERS.

MAXINE EVERITT told SA HENDRICKS that MUNN treated VENTERS's remarks as a joke in speaking to her and he gave her no further details concerning the call. He also told her that he had not seen VENTERS in over 20 years since they attended high school in Enid, Oklahoma. LESLIE EVERITT stated that VENTERS formerly resided with his mother, Mrs. JOSEPH VENTERS, at 1900 West Broadway, Enid, Oklahoma.

MAXINE EVERITT stated that she believed that CECIL MUNN would be back in Fort Worth, Texas, on that date, December 2, 1963.

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CHARLES STEARNS VENTERS,
Aka "Buster"

*Clinton, Missouri, 1922 (1920) Ill.
Texas*

It is noted that CECIL MUNN of Fort Worth, Texas, referred to VENTERS as CHARLES J. but VENTERS advised that his name was CHARLES STEARNS VENTERS.

On April 30, 1964, Mrs. PATRICIA JOYCE VENTERS was contacted by SA LANFORD L. BLANTON at 5744 Troost Avenue, North Hollywood, California. She stated she was the wife of CHARLES STEARNS VENTERS and that he is presently at the Veterans Administration Hospital located in Sepulveda, California. She stated he is confined at the Hospital for nerves and mental problems. She said he has a serious drinking problem and after a round with the alcoholic beverage, he becomes a little weird.

Mrs. VENTERS advised that CHARLES had committed himself on January 4, 1964. She advised they had married on November 15, 1963. He had just been released from the Texas State Prison at Huntsville, where he had been serving time for an armed robbery. She advised she first met him in a bar in Fort Worth, Texas, two and one-half years ago. He has told her that he is a nurse's aide and also performs common labor jobs but she has yet to know of him having a job.

On April 30, 1964, M. A. KENNEDY, Records Administration, Veterans Administration Hospital, Sepulveda, California, advised his records indicated that CHARLES STEARNS VENTERS had been admitted to that hospital on January 6, 1964. He had voluntarily admitted himself and the diagnosis was psychoneurosis - anxiety state. His records indicate VENTERS was born October 5, 1922, at Clinton, Missouri, and his nearest relative is his wife at 5744 Troost in North Hollywood. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and had Army Serial Number 18176184. He is presently in Ward 7-C at this hospital. KENNEDY said that VENTER's claim file with the Veterans Administration is Number 5353875.

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On April 30, 1964, CHARLES STEARNS VENTERS was interviewed at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Sepulveda, California. He advised that just after the assassination of President KENNEDY, he had called an old school friend of his, CECIL MUNN, in Fort Worth, Texas. He advised he had just arrived in Los Angeles on the day of the assassination and that he was very upset concerning the assassination. He told MUNN in the telephone conversation that he believed FIDEL CASTRO of Cuba was directly behind the assassination. He had no specific knowledge of information on which to base this idea but had formed this idea from his reading of newspapers, listening to the radio, and watching television. He said he still believes CASTRO had a part in the assassination and that he, VENTERS, would be very willing to help in any type of a Government-sponsored and organized war or campaign against Cuba.

VENTERS advised that at the time he made the call to MUNN, he had been drinking and, in fact, had made the call from a beer joint. He stated he did not recall his exact conversation but he is sure he felt that if anybody would assist him, he would be more than willing to help in any type of retaliation against CASTRO which could be developed.

VENTERS advised he was not acquainted with LEE HARVEY OSWALD, JACK RUBY, or any of the individuals who have come into the public light from the assassination. He has no acquaintances or friends who have ever related any connection between any of these individuals and Cuba or Castro to him.

VENTERS advised he was born October 5, 1922, at Clinton, Missouri. He advised he had always used and was given the name of CHARLES STEARNS VENTERS and had never used the initial "J." in his name. He advised he has a high school education, was in the U.S. Army from September, 1942, until September, 1945. He received a medical discharge. He has been drawing a pension from the Veterans Administration for a nervous condition. He advised that up until coming to Los Angeles on November 22, 1963, he had resided in Fort Worth, Texas, during most of the time since his discharge from the Army in 1945. He advised he had been arrested in Fort Worth and convicted for burglary, for which he served about a year and a half in the Texas State Prison in Huntsville.

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RPG/ds

ALDO VIDALI

A confidential source abroad has advised as follows:

On February 10, 1964, Mr. ALBERTO COCCIA, Via Ronciglione 15-B, Rome, Italy, stated that he had heard that ALDO VIDALI, Via Antonio Bertoloni 23, Rome, Italy, might have some information concerning matters touching upon the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY. The source noted that Mr. COCCIA had previously, on February 4, 1964, stated that VIDALI was threatening to physically harm and possibly kill COCCIA's daughter because she refused marriage with VIDALI.

VIDALI was interviewed by the source on March 10, 1964, concerning any information he might have touching upon the assassination of President KENNEDY.

VIDALI stated that he had absolutely no information concerning persons possibly connected with the assassination or concerning individuals who, to his knowledge, might even remotely be associated with the incident. VIDALI stated that, like most Americans, he was deeply shocked by the death of President KENNEDY, but also, like many Americans, he was not convinced in his own mind that the President's death was due merely to the undirected and uncoordinated act of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. VIDALI stated that in his conversations with Italian and American citizens in Rome he had on several occasions expressed the thought that there might well be ramifications touching upon the assassination which had not been made public. He had never, however, according to VIDALI, indicated in his conversations who he thought might be involved in the assassination other than OSWALD, nor had he ever attempted to identify any groups or political entities which might have been involved in any possible plot connected with the assassination. VIDALI stated that he knows of no one, either in America or anywhere else in the world, who might have pertinent information concerning the actual facts surrounding the assassination.

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On March 10, 1964, the same source furnished the following additional background information concerning VIDALI:

In about 1950 or 1951, VIDALI was attending the Colorado School of Mines at Golden, Colorado. While there VIDALI met one MARTIN ALBERT, whom VIDALI had described as an out-and-out communist. During the course of their acquaintance, ALBERT attempted to recruit VIDALI for communist activity. VIDALI described ALBERT as a food salesman who used his wide contacts in his sales business to propagandize for the Communist Party among Negro groups.

Sometime in the mid-1950's, VIDALI was residing in Laguna Beach, California. At that time VIDALI was making extensive trips to Mexico from the United States in connection with mining ventures.

VIDALI is registered under the Selective Service Act of 1948 with Local Board Number 134, 209 Church Street, Santa Ana, California, with Selective Service Number 4-134-30-599. He was reportedly registered on September 26, 1956, at which time he was residing at 175 Dumont Drive, Laguna Beach, Orange, California, and was classified 5-A on November 9, 1956.

VIDALI was naturalized as a United States citizen in United States District Court in Denver, Colorado, in October 1958.

VIDALI was formerly married to JANET CALCAGNO, who was originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and who is now remarried and residing at 144 Carr Drive, Glendale, California.

The source furnished the following summary of residences and travel concerning VIDALI:

1930-1934 Brussels, Belgium
1934-1947 Italy
1948-1949 Residing with his mother, EMILIA VIDALI,
at Sao Paolo, Brazil. His mother was
described as an opera singer who con-
tinues to reside at Sao Paolo.
1949-to date VIDALI has resided most of the time
in the United States with brief
trips to Mexico in connection with
surveys for the possible purchase
of mines.

In the recent past VIDALI has been associated with a Texas corporation known as Tex-Italia in Austin, Texas. The aims of this corporation are to produce and disseminate motion pictures in the United States and Italy. To date the corporation has had very little success and has had considerable difficulty in locating financial backing.

VIDALI was an illegitimate child, having been born out of wedlock to ALDO SALERNO, an Italian citizen, and to EMILIA VIDALI.

On March 9, 1964, a second confidential source abroad advised as follows:

ALDO VIDALI was born to an unknown father and EMILIA VIDALI at Brussels, Belgium, on February 12, 1930. He is single and his residence in the United States was shown as 9426 Santa Monica Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California. VIDALI was carried on the rolls of the Ufficio dello Stato Civile (Bureau of Statistics) of Rome from 1931 to 1951, at which time he was removed from the rolls because his location was unknown.

VIDALI, coming from the United States, arrived in Italy on August 17, 1962, by air, bearing U. S. Passport No. 2044064, issued at Washington, D. C., on April 27, 1960. He subsequently left Italy for the United States, returning to

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Italy on February 21, 1963. On March 7, 1964, coming from Switzerland, VIDALI again re-entered Italy. He presently resides at Via Antonio Bertoloni #23, Rome, at which address is located the firm Autori Associati (Associated Authors), which deals in movie films and of which VIDALI is an advisor and stockholder. Among the other stockholders of this firm is one ALDO SALERNO, who was born at Rome, Italy, on February 3, 1901, and who was described as an ex-advisor of the Partito Nazionale Monarchico (National Monarchist Party), who had been retired from the political scene for some time.

DL 89-43

Re: INFORMATION FROM MRS. JOSEPH PATRICK
WAGNER

1106

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 9, 1964

Mrs. JOSEPH PATRICK WAGNER, 3315 North 60th Street, Phoenix, Arizona, telephone number WH. 5-6288, called the Phoenix Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at 3:00 AM, and furnished the following information:

She had been thinking about the circumstances surrounding the President's death and thought of something which had prevented her from going to sleep.

She said it occurred to her that because of JACK RUBENSTEIN's (JACK RUST's) "gangland connections", it seemed plausible to her that the "La Cosa Nostra" had ordered the President's death more as a means of getting at Attorney General ROBERT KENNEDY, than for the single act of killing the President.

1107

On 11/28/63 at Phoenix, Arizona File # PX 89-42
by SPC GRANT A. JACOBSEN :btg Date dictated 4/8/64

LA 89-75
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ROBERT R. WALKER

Mrs. JEAN REDDELL, 5223 Namor Housing, Apartment B,
U. S. Marine Corps Base, El Toro, California, telephonically
advised on November 26, 1963, that she is divorced from
ROBERT R. WALKER and presently married to Corporal CECIL K.
REDDELL. (1)(6)

She stated she has custody of three children who
were the issue of her marriage to WALKER and that about three
weeks ago WALKER came to her above listed address to visit
the children in the presence of her present husband, Corporal
REDDELL.

She stated WALKER shocked them when he stated that
"President KENNEDY should be shot for treason". She related
he also stated that if he knew he could get away with it,
he would shoot President KENNEDY himself.

Mrs. REDDELL characterized WALKER as a former
alcoholic and present member of Alcoholics Anonymous and
added he is a member of the John Birch Society and the
American Legion.

ROBERT R. WALKER was contacted by a Special Agent
of the FBI on November 26, 1963, and advised that he thinks
that "President JOHN F. KENNEDY is guilty of treason. He
gave the Russians wheat and let 1400 Cubans get captured.
I would like to have seen him get tried for treason".

He denied that he ever made any statement that
President KENNEDY should be shot and denied any knowledge of
anyone or any group of people who would try to shoot President
KENNEDY. He added it is his personal conviction that murder
is never justified and he would never have any part in such
a plan.

WALKER stated that the only organizations he belongs
to are the American Legion and John Birch Society and stated:

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he considers himself a loyal American with the interests of this country foremost in his heart. He added that he served in the U. S. Marine Corps December, 1939 to December, 1956, Marine Serial No. 279052, and in the U. S. Air Force December, 1956 to March, 1960, Air Force Serial No. 19581827. He stated in both instances he received an honorable discharge.

WALKER advised that he presently resides at 13141 Westlake Street, Garden Grove, California, and is employed by the ABC Store, Bolsa Street, Santa Ana, California, as a special guard.

PD 89-21
WSB:gst
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RE RALPH V. WALLINGTON

On November 22, 1963, RALPH V. WALLINGTON, age 70, 302 Kshlagen Apartments, Roseburg, Oregon, advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Portland, that he was in Jackson, Wyoming, on September 25, 1963, where he met and shook hands with President KENNEDY. WALLINGTON said later while talking to an employee of the Chamber of Commerce, this person, whose name he did not know, spoke in a derogatory manner concerning the President. WALLINGTON said that he reported this incident and this man to a clerk by the name of CLARK in the Jackson, Wyoming, Post Office. WALLINGTON thought this man might possibly have something to do with the assassination of the President.

At approximately 1:20 P.M. on November 24, 1963, an individual contacted the Boise Resident Agency of the FBI by long distance telephone from Roseburg, Oregon. The caller was almost incoherent, identified himself as RALPH C. WELLINGTON or something similar, 1911 Main Avenue, Roseburg, Oregon, spoke as if he were possibly intoxicated and stated he was trying to contact the Portland FBI Office with information about the death of President KENNEDY. When asked to provide details, he merely mumbled and said he would endeavor to contact the Portland Office.

Investigation at Roseburg disclosed that the above address was nonexistent. The Boise caller, however, was identified as the above RALPH V. WALLINGTON, 911 SE Lane, Apartment 302, Roseburg.

On November 24, 1963, WALLINGTON provided Roseburg Chief of Police JOHN TRUETT with information similar to that which he had previously supplied on November 22, 1963. He merely advised that he was in Jackson, Wyoming on September 25, 1963, where he met and shook hands with President KENNEDY. He said that later while talking to an employee of the Chamber of Commerce, this individual, name unknown, made a derogatory statement concerning the President. WALLINGTON thought this might have something to do with the assassination of the President.

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The Chief of Police noted that during the interview WALLINGTON was in such an intoxicated condition that the above information was obtained from him only through prolonged questioning. WALLINGTON's wife was present during the interview and she advised that her husband had been very upset following the assassination of the President and had been drinking heavily since that time. She said further that he is 70 years old and she described him as an alcoholic. She said that he had tried to call the Portland FBI Office that same afternoon but instead reached the Boise Resident Agency when his speech was incoherent and misunderstood by the telephone operator.

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JCA:mjg

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HAROLD A. WALSH, also known as
Bud Walsh

On November 22, 1963, an individual who identified himself as JACK JOHNSON, 2367 Madrona, Torrance, California, telephonically advised the FBI that one BUD WALSH had recently stated the President would be dead by the end of this month. Mr. JOHNSON stated he did not know WALSH's residence address and furnished no additional information other than to state WALSH was a City of Torrance employee.

Investigation conducted by the FBI disclosed the address 2367 Madrona, Torrance, was fictitious, and no record of a JACK JOHNSON could be located in the current telephone directory or Torrance City Directory.

Inquiry of Detective Bureau, Torrance Police Department, disclosed that HAROLD A. WALSH, also known as BUD WALSH, and his wife, MARIAN L. WALSH, reside at 2039 West 233rd Street, Torrance; further, WALSH is the Torrance City Building Inspector and has been for a number of years. WALSH is currently under subpoena to appear before the California State Attorney General hearing into charges of corruption in the City of Torrance. The California State Attorney General hearings have been postponed from time to time, but it was ascertained that WALSH was in the City of Torrance on November 22, 1963.

On November 23, 1963, HAROLD WALSH was interviewed, at which time he disclosed he has been a Torrance, California resident for the past 20 years, is currently in charge of the Torrance Police Mounted Patrol and has been a reserve officer in this organization for the past 10 years. He has also been employed by the City of Torrance for the past 10 years.

Mr. WALSH readily admitted that a week or so ago during the course of a conversation with Lieutenant COOK, Vice Officer, Torrance Police Department, and JACK PHILLIPS

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of Paramount Building Company, two of his friends for many years, that he made the statement that every 20 years during a zero series, the President in office did not finish his term. He stated that history has shown this to be a fact, and he felt President KENNEDY, who was elected in 1960, if history was right, would not finish his term. The conversation became intense over this subject, and WALSH bet Mr. PHILLIPS \$100.00 President KENNEDY would not finish his term, based not only on WALSH's knowledge of history, but in view of the numerous events which had occurred in this country, all of historical importance, involving JAMES HOFFA, the steel crisis, the Cuban situation, integration, and other such factors which aroused the public.

WALSH never realized how prophetic his statement would be, and he stated he never even thought of the statement until November 22, 1963, at which time Lieutenant COOK noted during the course of a conversation that "BUD WALSH really hit it on the nose" in his prophetic statement of a week or more ago.

Mr. WALSH stated people seemingly have no regard for human life and certainly in many instances have no respect for Government law or order. WALSH stated that he had the highest regard for President KENNEDY, and the fact that the President's life was snuffed out is one of our great tragedies. He stated that he and his family are in mourning for the President. He states he now wishes he had never made a statement which turned out to be so prophetic.