



U. S. STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Denver, Colorado
May 26, 1964

JOHN JOSEPH REUTER

On May 25, 1964, Officer IRE FRANCIS LARSEN, Police Department, Cheyenne, Wyoming, advised as follows:

On May 22, 1964, a call was received by the Cheyenne, Wyoming, Police Department from the Salvation Army in Cheyenne, reporting that one JOHN JOSEPH REUTER was drunk and causing a disturbance at the Salvation Army.

Officers LARSEN and ROBERT WILLIAMS arrested REUTER on the street near the Salvation Army, at approximately 6:22 p.m. that date. REUTER was very drunk, staggering and resisted arrest. It was necessary to use restraining devices to keep REUTER under control and take him to the police station.

While riding in the police car to the police station, REUTER stated, "I killed KENNEDY. They got the wrong man. OSWALD had nothing to do with it, and OSWALD was just a punk. You guys think I am nuts but I know just exactly where I was and exactly what happened at the time," apparently referring to the assassination of President KENNEDY.

At the booking desk, Officers LARSEN and WILLIAMS were present when REUTER made the additional statement that he "could have got JOHNSON and the one I am after was CALDWATER." Officers JERRY HARRIS, EDWARD HALLEBERG and JAMES PAGES were also believed to have been present when REUTER made these statements at the booking desk.

[REUTER] was so drunk and belligerent at the time he made these statements that Officer LARSEN felt he should wait until he had had time to "sober up" to question him further concerning these statements.

[REUTER] also made a statement while at the booking desk to the effect that he wanted to be deported to Russia, wanted to "go Federal" and would admit anything.

LARSEN was of the opinion that the remarks made by [REUTER] were those of a "crazy drunk" or a mental case.

At 4:00 p.m. on May 25, 1964, [REUTER] appeared in Police Court in Cheyenne on charges of drunk, vagrancy and resisting arrest. He was fined \$100 on the resisting arrest charge. He paid \$75 of this fine, which money he had received by Western Union Money Order, number NK71949, on May 25, 1964, from his sister, Mrs. SOLOMON DAVID Wellfleet, Massachusetts. The Court ordered that he commence serving time in the City Jail for the remaining \$25 fine.

On May 25, 1964, [JOHN JOSEPH REUTER] was interviewed at the Cheyenne, Wyoming, Police Department, inasmuch as he had indicated to Officer LARSEN that he wanted to "go Federal", in an effort to determine any pertinent information and background concerning [REUTER] and his possible criminal activities.

[REUTER] advised that he is, in his opinion, an "itinerant bum" and that he has not held a steady job since September, 1963.

[REUTER] said that when he was arrested by officers of the Cheyenne Police Department on May 22, 1964, he was apparently "crazy drunk." He said that on May 24, 1964, while being fingerprinted and photographed by Officer JERRY MANNERS, MANNERS had informed him that he had made statements to the effect that he had killed President KENNEDY, that he could have gotten President JOHNSON and intended to

get GOLDWATER. He said he does not recall making any of these statements and that he has certainly never had any such ideas to run through his mind when he was sober.

He said that when he is drinking he often says and does things which he cannot later remember and does not know why he makes such remarks because he does not mean them, but that this apparently is his way of getting back at people when he is drunk and gets the impression that he is being pushed around. He said that when he is drunk he has been told that he even hates his best friend.

REUTER advised that communism is the lowest type of belief in his opinion and he feels that anyone who would believe in such doctrines is stupid. REUTER said he has never felt any sort of hatred toward the President of the United States or Senator BARRY GOLDWATER.

He said that the only thing that he can think of as to the reason why he may have made the above statements is that he was drinking in a bar in Cheyenne just prior to his arrest, where he became very drunk, and that he may have overheard conversation concerning politics, which may have prompted his "drunken mind" to build up such thoughts.

REUTER advised that on November 22, 1963, the date on which President JOHN F. KENNEDY was assassinated at Dallas, Texas, he, REUTER, was working on Watson Island at Miami, Florida, for the Goodyear Company under the supervision of Captain NEALEY (a civilian, first name unrecalled), Pilot in Charge, and Crew Chief JOE NICK. He said his duties were handling lines to blimps.

The following background and descriptive data were obtained at the time of interview through personal observation and interrogation:

Name
Race
Sex

JOHN JOSEPH REUTER
White
Male

Born September 5, 1928
St. Louis, Missouri
Height 6'2"
Weight 175 pounds
Hair Dark brown
Eyes Blue, wears horn-rimmed glasses
Complexion Medium to dark
Scars and marks One-inch scar, center of forehead; tattoo of a pair of dice and name JOHN on left forearm
Marital status Single
Build Medium
Occupation Truck driver; laborer (often contacts state employment offices to obtain work)

Relatives

Father, CHARLES EUGENE REUTER, SR., (Deceased at Denver, Colorado, September 13, 1959)

Mother, Mrs. IDA REUTER, nee, MOELLER, and Sister, Mrs. SOLOMON (LEE) DAVID, both residing at Box 121, Wellfleet, Massachusetts

Brother, CHARLES EUGENE REUTER, JR., employed by the Southern Bell Telephone Company, St. Louis, Missouri home address unknown

Cousin, Mrs. JUNE HALL, nee BROWN, 7821 Ledore, Denver, Colorado

Social Security Number

492-20-0355

Selective Service

Registered with Local Board at Denver, Colorado

Previous employments

Westergard Transfer and Storage Company, Mayflower Agent, Idaho Falls, Idaho, November, 1962, to September, 1963

Goodyear Company, Miami, Florida, from about November 1, 1963, until January 7, 1964

On May 25, 1964, the information obtained from Officer LARSEN and JOHN JOSEPH REUTER was furnished to Mr. ROLLAND H. OSBORNE, Special Agent in Charge, U. S. Secret Service, New Custom House Building, Denver, Colorado.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.