

FBI

Date: 5/29/64

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Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060)

FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (89-27)

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS, 11/22/63
KILLING A FEDERAL OFFICER
(OO: Dallas)

RE: ~~JAMES N. O'BRIEN, aka J. Mike~~
~~O'Brien, James Michael O'Brien,~~
~~John Mike O'Brien~~

*Prof. Asst.
1976
Tenn.
J.P.C.*

Re Cleveland airtel to Director, 4/17/64, and
Cleveland airtel to Director, 5/12/64.

Enclosed for Indianapolis Division are one copy
each of the referenced communications, one each FD-302
of interview with BLANCHE GILTNER, 4/16/64; one each FD-302
of interview with BLANCHE GILTNER, 11/29/63; one copy of
each insert reflecting interview at Chester, S.C.

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JOHN R. REILLY, 5/27/64;

AT ATHENS, TENNESSEE:

T. C. MILLER, Athens, Tennessee Police Department
and W. H. ALLEN, McMinn County SO, Athens, Tennessee, both

- ③ - Bureau
- 2 - Cleveland
- 2 - Dallas
- 2 - Indianapolis (Enc. 5)
- 2 - Memphis
- 4 - Knoxville

*airtel SAC, KY
ROR: lcc
6-2-64*

REC-102

62-109060-3168

10 JUN 1 1964

JRR/vpc
pap
(15)

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

[Handwritten initials]

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advised their files contained no information concerning O'BRIEN.

[redacted] Home Finance Company, stated he had no record in his file concerning O'BRIEN, however, this record could be located at the Home Finance Company, Alcoa, Tennessee.

[redacted] Home Finance Company, advised his company financed a 1960 Plymouth Fury, 4-door sedan, VIN 3301121719 to one JOHN MIKE O'BRIEN. This vehicle was titled in the State of Tennessee, 9/9/63, under title #8998285. 1962 Tennessee license tag 19-Z888 and 1963 sticker #A783395 were believed issued this vehicle. The car was purchased from Hatcher Pontiac and Cadillac Company, Athens, Tennessee. The credit application filled out at the time of the purchase indicated O'BRIEN to be residing at Route 6, Box 18, Cleveland, Tennessee, occupation retired, age 67, former residence 156 Division Street, Elgin, Illinois, Illinois driver's license #016547384102, sister CORA SMITH, *now O'Brien* Washington, D. C.

O'BRIEN made two payments, October and November, 1963, on this car, both being checks drawn on the First National Bank of Lima, Ohio. [redacted] recalled these checks were personalized and listed an address of the Kirwan Hotel, Lima, Ohio. The November, 1963, payment was received by the Home Finance Company, in an envelope bearing a return address of the Sevilla Apartment Hotel, Richmond, Virginia.

Investigation by [redacted] of the Home Finance Company in an effort to locate O'BRIEN, determined he had resided at the residence of a Mrs. LUCILLE TATE, Cleveland, Tennessee (telephone 472-7572). It was also determined, O'BRIEN spent 7-10 days at the Campbell Medical Clinic located on McCallie Avenue, Chattanooga, where he reportedly met a Mrs. HELEN ASHLEY, 103 W. Newberry, Chattanooga, Tennessee, (telephone 877-4618). ASHLEY was contacted by [redacted] at which time she was completely uncooperative.

[redacted] advised PAUL ASHLEY was stealing narcotics from the Campbell Clinic

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and supplying them to O'BRIEN. [redacted] also is believed to have stated O'BRIEN originally came to the U. S. from Canada. During his residence at Cleveland, Tennessee, he was known to have spent time at the Cleveland, Tennessee Country Club. [redacted] described O'BRIEN as being 5'6" heavy set, gray hair, wearing bifocal glasses, and constantly purchasing paregoric from drugstores.

[redacted] solicited the assistance of the Interstate Securities Company, 658 Market Street, West, Lima, Ohio, in an effort to locate O'BRIEN. Through Interstate it was determined MICHAEL O'BRIEN, 119 West Robb Avenue, Lima, Ohio, might possibly be the son of JOHN MIKE O'BRIEN. Information was also received from the Interstate Company concerning checks cashed in Mobile, Alabama. [redacted] made contact with a Mr. HILLSMAN who operates the Bob Oliver Tire Company, Mobile, Alabama, through the Credit Bureau of Escombia Company, Inc., Pensacola, Florida, however, no pertinent information was developed.

The 1960 Plymouth was recovered by Indianapolis, Indiana Police Department, 4/13/64, in the vicinity of 4153 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana. The car was in running condition without oil. The car contained several paregoric bottles and bore a 1964 Indiana tag #49Z9831 at the time it was determined. This tag was determined to be registered to a PATRICK C. O'HARA, 2049 Meridian, Indianapolis, Indiana, and it is believed registered to a 1957 Plymouth, VIN 16Z16308.

[redacted] stated he would immediately advise the FBI Office at Knoxville should he obtain any additional information concerning O'BRIEN.

The Bureau has advised, in view of the possibility the President's Commission may wind up its investigation of the assassination of President KENNEDY at an early date, every effort should be made to expedite the investigation and reporting of this matter.

LEADS:

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The following leads are set out in an effort to locate, thoroughly identify and interview O'BRIEN re his statement, UACB.

CLEVELAND DIVISION:

AT LIMA, OHIO: Contact MICHAEL O'BRIEN, 119 West Robb Avenue. (Possibly son of JOHN MIKE O'BRIEN).

INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION:

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA:

1. Contact A. R. TURNER, 112 West Ohio Street, (as listed in referenced Cleveland airtel).
2. Contact PATRICK C. O'HARA, 2049 Meridian (owner of 1964 Indiana tag found on 1960 Plymouth)
3. Conduct credit and arrest checks.

KNOXVILLE DIVISION:

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE:

1. Contact Campbell's Medical Clinic, McCallie Avenue.
2. Contact Mrs. HELEN ASHLEY, 103 West Newberry telephone 877-4618, (close friend).

AT CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE:

Contact Mrs. LUCILLE TATE, telephone 472-7525, (former landlady)