



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Los Angeles, California
June 30, 1964

INTERVIEW OF ROBERT STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Robert Stephen Reynolds was interviewed by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at the request of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, by letter to the Director, FBI, dated June 24, 1964. He furnished the following information:

He is currently residing at 1118 Third Street, Santa Monica, California. He is a writer by profession, but is currently working only part time as a writer, and is supplementing his income by doing maintenance work. Stephen Remete was born December 8, 1913, at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, but at age 15 had his name legally changed to Robert Stephen Reynolds. He served in the U. S. Air Force from April, 1943, to December, 1945, and attained the rating of Staff Sergeant.

He attended parochial school in New Jersey for nine and one-half years. When he was 14 or 15 years old he went to New York with his mother, who worked as a cook. His father died in 1925, and, according to his mother, his brother, Gordon, was injured in World War II. He has not seen his brother since he (Reynolds) was 13 years old and has no idea as to his current whereabouts. While in New York, he worked as a clerk for the Pan American Oil Company and for the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. He took some high school courses during this time, but never formally completed high school.

In 1931, he went to Atlanta, Georgia, where he worked as a reporter for the Atlanta Journal, and for the Associated Press. During the next five years he also worked intermittently for a magazine firm and his work took him to various parts of the country. In 1936, he came to California, where he worked at various jobs, including working as a station attendant for the Richfield Oil Company, and as a salesman for the Jordan Advertising

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Agency. He also worked in the advertising department of the Los Angeles Times, and in June, 1936, married Peggy Armitage. They were divorced a short time later. He lost contact with his mother in 1947, and has not been in touch with her since that time.

He also worked in San Francisco, California, in the 1940's and had registered with the Draft Board there. Prior to his discharge from the Air Force, he worked for the Office of War Information in Europe, beginning in November, 1944, continuing after he left the service, until May of 1946. In 1946 he returned to New York, and worked for RCA in New York City. He was married again in 1948, and the following year, together with his wife and child, went to Phoenix, Arizona. He later was divorced from his wife, and she and the child left to live in Newport, Rhode Island.

In 1950, he went to Port Arthur, Texas, where he sold pharmaceutical supplies, returning to Phoenix in August of the following year. During this period he applied for employment with the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, but was rejected. He worked for Wyeth, Inc., a pharmaceutical firm, in Phoenix. In 1952 he went to Alaska, and worked for the Alaskan Broadcasting Corporation as News Director; he also worked for the Civil Defense Office as Public Information Officer. While in Alaska, he was instrumental in breaking a longshoreman's strike promoted by Harry Bridges.

He returned to Los Angeles in 1953, and worked at several jobs, including driving a taxicab for the Yellow Cab Company. He began having nervous problems about this time, and for a period of three years he became so nervous he would lose his voice. He was threatened by his fellow employees with knives, and on several occasions they would fix the brakes on his cab so they would go out completely. He consulted several doctors, who told him they could find nothing wrong with him, but that his problem was a psychological one. In October of 1953, he went to Phoenix, and consulted Dr. Thorne, who said he was suffering from a nervous breakdown and suggested that he go to a hospital. However, he did not go to a hospital, but after a period of rest and staying away from people, he was able to regain his health.

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From Phoenix, he went to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where he contacted an agent of the FBI, and furnished certain information concerning large sums of money that were being fraudulently sent from the Governor's Office in Juneau, Alaska, to Cuba. After about fifteen months in Oklahoma City, he went to Austin, Texas, where he worked for the Wall Street Journal. He took some open seminar courses at the University of Texas, beginning in June of 1956. He visited the Newman Club at the University on a number of occasions, and in February of 1957, he attended one particular meeting attended by about twenty Newman Club members, and a Catholic Priest, who was Rector of the Church at Our Lady of Angels School in Chicago. He is unable to recall the name of this priest, but the priest was visiting the Club, and was at the University on a temporary basis. All of the Club members signed a book or log as being present at this particular meeting.

He inquired of the priest concerning the fire escapes at Our Lady of Angels School, and then commented to the priest that there would be a catastrophe at the School. The following year there was a fire and many children were killed. He has no idea as to why he talked about the School, or how he was able to forecast this disaster. At this meeting he commented to the priest and the Newman Club members that if Kennedy were elected President, he would be murdered. About a month later he commented to a friend in Austin, his name unrecalled, that a man by the name of Oswald would be the assassinator if Kennedy were elected President and assassinated. He had never met Oswald and can offer no explanation for the basis of the above, except that he must have perceived it. He may have seen Oswald at the University in September of 1957, but he is not sure of this.

^{Texas}
In August of 1957, he contacted the Payne Town Agency in Austin, Texas, for the purpose of obtaining a public relations position, and had some conversation with an individual, who purported to be affiliated with the Agency, and whom he later found out to be Earl Rubenstein. During the course of conversation with this person, he mentioned having a brother, Jack, who operated a night club in Dallas, Texas. He has never met Jack Ruby, but perceived at this time that the above-mentioned Jack would be the killer of Oswald. He was in Austin, Texas, during the approximate period May, 1954, to February, 1958, and from Austin, he returned to Phoenix, where he worked for the Arizona

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Republic in the Circulation Sales Department. In September of 1960, he went to Santa Barbara, California, where he worked and took some college literature courses. He has been in California since 1960, working and attending school. Last year he took some courses at the University of California at Los Angeles.

While in Austin, Texas, in 1957, he discussed the above-mentioned perceptions with a number of people, including University students Fred Pepper, Stanley Adams and a paraplegic attending the School of Law, his name unrecalled. He also discussed his perceptions with Arthur Merchant, who operated an ice cream parlor near the University on Guadalupe Street. He suffered a serious kidney ailment while attending school at the University of California at Los Angeles in West Los Angeles, California, last fall, and was physically incapacitated from about October through December. He was arrested in Los Angeles in 1941 by the FBI for failure to notify his draft board in San Francisco of his change of address, and served three months at a Federal honor camp. He was given time to serve because an FBI Agent lied when he told the court that he (Reynolds) had resisted arrest. In January of 1962, he was arrested in Los Angeles, California, for jaywalking, and served twenty-seven days in jail. T-10