



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Boston, Massachusetts

March 16, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS

At 3:25 P.M. on March 15, 1967, a person identifying himself as Arthur Edward Paige Strout, telephonically contacted the Boston, Massachusetts Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Office and requested he be contacted by an Agent immediately as he had information of importance to the Boston FBI Office. Strout stated that he was, at that time, at Higen's Bar, located at the corner of Charles and Clarendon Streets in Boston.

At 4:00 P.M. on March 15, 1967, an FBI Agent located Strout at Higen's Cafe, which was determined to be located at the corner of Chandler and Clarendon Streets in Boston. Strout stated that subsequent to the assassination of President Kennedy, he had received information from one Clay Shaw about a conspiracy that existed to assassinate the President and the actual assassination. Strout himself had no part in either.

Strout was obviously intoxicated and in a stupefied condition. He admitted having been drinking since early that morning. Strout claimed he first met Clay Shaw (known to him originally as Bertram) together with Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby and Russo, at Ruby's Cafe in Dallas, Texas. He met them in August of 1962 in a rear room of the cafe used for gambling.

Strout stated that he met them casually as fellow gamblers and at that time knew nothing of any association they might have with one another.

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Strout next met Shaw by appointment at the Greyhound Bus Terminal at New Orleans, Louisiana. Strout was quite vague as to why this appointment was made but said that Shaw was a homosexual and at the meeting at the bus station suggested to Strout that if Strout would take care of Shaw's sexual needs, that Shaw would get Strout up with an apartment and furnish him with a girlfriend. Strout stated that at the time he was broke and the proposition appealed to him. He participated in a number of homosexual acts with Shaw at various places. Two of these occasions were at Shaw's residence in New Orleans.

Strout could not place the location of any of these acts other than to say they took place in New Orleans. He claimed he could easily locate Shaw's residence but did not recall the street address.

Strout stated that although he "took care of Shaw", Shaw never gave him the promised apartment.

Strout stated that he comes from Auburn, Maine, and when Shaw heard that he was returning there in the Spring of 1963, he offered to pay Strout's fare if Strout would take with him a .45 caliber Colt, six-shot automatic pistol. Shaw had, by this time, gradually told Strout about the conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy and the actual assassination. Shaw mentioned that Oswald, Ruby, Russo, Shaw himself and others had been involved. Shaw claimed that the .45 caliber automatic pistol that he wanted Strout to take had been used and fired by Shaw in Dallas, Texas on the occasion of President Kennedy's assassination in order to create a diversified attack and throw attention away from Oswald, who actually shot President Kennedy.

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Shaw felt that the automatic would be perfectly safe in Maine since this was far removed from the scene at which it had been used.

Although Strout claimed that Shaw discussed the conspiracy and the assassination with him, he could give no further details about either. The discrepancy between the date he claims Shaw gave him the gun, namely in the Spring of 1963, and the date of the actual assassination, November 22, 1963, was pointed out to Strout but had no effect on his story and he insisted his date was correct.

Strout claimed he took the automatic and on his way back to Maine, stopped for a few days with his sister and brother-in-law, Naomi and Robert Stevens, 901 Foxglove Street, Amarillo, Texas. Strout showed them the gun, told them his story and a few days later decided to get rid of the gun by pawning it. His brother-in-law, Robert Strout, drove him to a pawn shop which Strout claims was located somewhere on Highway 66, which is Amarillo Boulevard, in Amarillo, Texas.

Strout stated that his sister, Naomi, has returned to Maine since her husband, serving in the United States Army, is now stationed in Guam. Naomi Stevens now lives at 10 Drummond Street, Auburn, Maine.

Strout also stated that his grandmother, Mrs. Stephen Fogg, 1543 Hotel Road, Auburn, Maine, was also told his story prior to the current investigation by the District Attorney's Office in New Orleans, Louisiana, having been given newspaper publicity.

He stated that contact with Mrs. Fogg and Mrs. Stevens can verify this.

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Strout stated that he was not in Dallas, Texas at the time of the assassination and does not recall just where he was since he roams around the United States continuously. At the present time he is residing in a rooming house located at 116 Appleton Street, Boston, Massachusetts, and is employed as a dishwasher by the Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

Strout stated that he has never had a history of mental illness and has never received any psychiatric treatment. He stated that he did serve a prison sentence in Tennessee in 1964 having been convicted of car theft.

It is noted that on September 1, 1964 [redacted] Auburn, Maine Police Department, advised that Strout, who had formerly been a resident of Auburn, Maine, was arrested by the Auburn, Maine Police Department on August 17, 1964 on a Fugitive Warrant for the Memphis, Tennessee Police Department.

[redacted] advised that Strout had waived extradition and had been returned to Memphis, Tennessee by members of the Memphis Police Department to stand trial for theft of an automobile.

Prior to this, Strout had been interviewed by FBI Agents at Portland, Maine, on July 22, 1964 at which time he stated that he left Auburn, Maine, on June 26, 1964 and went to Memphis, Tennessee, where he stayed at the home of Robert C. Aultz, 1118 Sumner Street, Memphis, Tennessee, whom he had known approximately five years. He stayed there until about July 8, 1964 when he left without telling Aultz that he was leaving.

He took a DeSoto car belonging to Aultz which was parked in Aultz's yard with the keys in the ignition. He took the car without permission, intending to return to Maine. The car broke down near U.S. Route 1 and 141.

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was abandoned by Strout.

On March 15, 1967 [REDACTED] Boston, Massachusetts Police Department, which covers the area of Appleton Street, advised that division records showed one Arthur Paige Strout had a drunk arrest on both January 10 and 29, 1967. Strout's date and place of birth are shown in the record as August 14, 1940 at Auburn, Maine.

At 9:15 P.M. on March 15, 1967 Strout again telephonically contacted the Boston FBI Office and advised the Agent on duty that he understood an FBI Agent had tried to contact him at Hignens Barroom for some unknown reason. Strout said he was supposed to fly to New Orleans, Louisiana by Eastern Airlines at 10:45 P.M., March 15, 1967 at the request of District Attorney Garrison. This was in connection with the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy. Strout stated all flights had been cancelled due to the current snow storm and he intended to take a 9:30 A.M. flight on March 16, 1967 instead.

Strout stated he was calling from the Chandler Cafe, 152 Chandler Street, Boston, Massachusetts, and that Garrison wanted to see him about some gun he had pawned in Dallas in 1963. He said he did not have his Eastern Airlines ticket but was of the opinion the FBI had made arrangements for him to fly to New Orleans.

Strout said that he came from Maine, had previously been interviewed by the FBI, had served time in Maine for carrying a weapon and had served time in Tennessee for an automobile violation.

He also said he had been arrested in Boston for making telephone calls. He then hung up.

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The FBI duty Agent immediately called the Chandler Cafe and the person answering the phone said Strout had just left the cafe, was intoxicated and had been talking about the assassination of the President while in the cafe. Strout had made the statement that he knew about the assassination before it happened and that he had intentions of going to New Orleans to see District Attorney Garrison. The person who answered the telephone at the cafe refused to identify himself.

At 7:15 A.M., March 16, 1967, Mr. Cornelius Dalton, Managing Editor, Boston Traveler, a daily newspaper published at Boston, Massachusetts, telephonically advised the Boston Office that Arthur Edward Paige Strout had contacted the Boston Traveler stating he had information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

Mr. Dalton stated that Strout was at that time in the company of reporters from the Boston Traveler who were trying to sober him up to see if there might be a local angle to the supposed conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy.

Mr. Dalton stated that Strout had in his possession a pre-paid airplane ticket to New Orleans. Mr. Dalton also stated that his newspaper had contacted Strout's grandmother, Mrs. Stephen Figg, who resides in Auburn, Maine, who had stated that Strout was in Maine at the time of the assassination of President Kennedy.

The following description of Arthur Edward Paige Strout was obtained on the occasion of his interviews July 22, 1964 at Portland, Maine, and March 14, 1967 at Boston, Massachusetts:

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Relatives:

Father · Willis Strout
10 Drummond Street
Auburn, Maine

Grandparents -
Stephen and Flora Fogg
1543 Hotel Road
Auburn, Maine

Sister · Naomi Stevens
10 Drummond Street
Auburn, Maine

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