



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Los Angeles, California

March 23, 1967

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN  
FITZGERALD KENNEDY, NOVEMBER 22,  
1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

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Mr. Lawrence Schiller, photographer-journalist, 3064 Elvill Drive, Los Angeles, California, advised on March 22, 1967, that he is an advocate of the Warren Commission and has objected to some of the "irresponsible journalist" who have been critical of the Commission on false or shallow grounds. Schiller recently has been interested in identifying and interviewing an alleged confidential informant of the writer Mark Lane, author of the book, "Rush to Judgment".

Mr. Schiller pointed out that Mark Lane testified before the Warren Commission that he had been advised by an informant, whose identity he refused to divulge to the Commission, that the informant was present in Jack Ruby's Carousel Club, Dallas, Texas, and had overheard an alleged meeting between Jack Ruby, Police Officer J. D. Tippitt, and Bernard Weisman on November 14, 1963. In Lane's book "Rush to Judgment", Lane is critical of the Warren Commission because the Commission did not obtain the identity of this informant and indicated that the Commission easily could have obtained the identity of this informant from Thayer Waldo, a Fort Worth, Texas, newspaperman associated with the "Sun-Telegram" newspaper.

Mr. Schiller said he recently interviewed Mr. Waldo and ascertained that Waldo is known by the name of Theodore Waldo. Schiller learned from Waldo that on December 7, 1963, Waldo was at the Dallas Press Club and met with a John Sutton and a Phil Burns. Sutton was employed in the radio business in Dallas and Burns was employed in the advertising business. Burns told Waldo and Sutton that he had been in the Carousel Club and had observed Ruby in conversation with a Dallas Police Officer by the name of Tippitt and a third man. Waldo did not recall that Burns used the first name of Tippitt and does not recall that Burns identified the third man as Bernard Weissman.

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Waldo said Sutton had explained to him after Burns had departed that Burns' true name was Paul Bridewell and that Burns was not using his true name because he was having some marital difficulties.

Schiller said he understood that Waldo subsequently introduced Bridewell to Mark Lane. Schiller did not ascertain when this was done; and, of course, is not aware of the exact information Bridewell furnished to Lane. Schiller is convinced, however, that Bridewell apparently was not aware that there were three police officers on the Dallas Police Department with similar names - J. D. Tippitt, Gale M. Tippitt and W. W. (Woody) Tippitt - and that J. D. Tippitt was the only one who was not acquainted with Ruby. Schiller also is convinced Bridewell would have identified Bernard Weissman to Waldo and to Sutton if he knew the identity of Weissman.

Schiller said he subsequently determined that Bridewell had remained in Dallas until the middle of 1964 when Mark Lane testified before the Commission, and that Bridewell became alarmed about having his identity revealed and went to Portland, Oregon, or Ranier, Oregon.

Schiller subsequently traveled to Oregon in an attempt to locate Bridewell. He said he had a search made of the Drivers License Department with negative results; however, he had ascertained that the Oregon State Tax Records contained the name of Paul Bridewell as being an Oregon resident. He had been able to obtain no other identifying data concerning Bridewell.

Schiller said it was his understanding that John Sutton probably would know the exact location of Bridewell; however, his investigation had determined that Sutton had moved to Pennsylvania to a town phonetically identified to Schiller as Wilshire. Schiller said he had been unable to locate this town from available maps and postal guides.

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Schiller volunteered that he recently had been interviewing homosexual sources available to him, and in the course of these interviews three homosexual sources in New Orleans and two homosexual sources in San Francisco have indicated that Clay L. Shaw was known by other names including the name of Clay Bertrand. Schiller said these sources refused to give him statements concerning this information for fear of personal exposure and refused to be identified as sources of this information. Schiller said he was not at liberty to volunteer the identity of these homosexual sources at this time.

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