



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New Orleans, Louisiana
March 17, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS, 11/22/63

Harry Herman, Attorney of the firm of Herman and Herman, 107 Camp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, telephonically contacted the New Orleans Office on the evening of March 16, 1967 and advised he had some information which he desired to make available to the FBI.

Mr. Herman was contacted at his office and he advised that Mr. Ray Berg, President of Pacesetter Publishing Company, 107 Camp Street, was a client of their law firm. He advised that Mr. Berg had some information regarding the current investigation of District Attorney James Garrison, Parish of Orleans, regarding the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

Mr. Ray Berg, President, Pacesetter Publishing Company, 107 Camp Street, advised that his company was incorporated in January of 1967. He advised that he used Attorney Thomas Baumler to handle the legal work and a person by the name of Jack Martins who used to handle office work by Baumler. Berg advised that Martins filed the incorporation papers with the Civil District Court, Parish of Orleans, and through this activity became acquainted with Ray Berg.

Berg advised that about January 29, 1967, Martins disappeared from New Orleans and when he left he told the District Attorneys Office that if they wanted him they should contact his attorney or his publisher, Pacesetter Publishing Company. Berg advised that he has no business dealings with MARTINS but that Martins was using his name.

ENCLOSURE

Berg advised that Martins moved to Houston, Texas and on the next occasion he heard from Martins was on the Sunday following the exposure by the New Orleans States-Item that Garrison was investigating the conspiracy to kill President Kennedy which the paper reported originated in New Orleans, Louisiana. At this time he learned that Martins and a private investigator by the name of R. C. Cook, Sr., President of the R & S Research, Inc., 2045 Richmond Avenue, Houston, Texas, had made a tape recording of a telephone conversation between Dave Lewis and Martins in which they named the names of the people involved in the Garrison investigation and the means by which Lewis had identified these individuals as being a part of the assassination plot.

Berg advised that a thirty-second excerpt from this tape was sent to New Orleans to him for the purpose of selling it and he has been contacted by various news sources and by Martins for the purpose of buying this tape which is in the possession of Cook in Houston, Texas. One of the individuals he recalls contacting him was a Gary Moore, cameraman for WDSU-TV, New Orleans. Berg advised that the tapes, as far as he knows, have never been sold and the thirty-second excerpt is in possession of Art Kevin, news reporter, Station KHJ-TV, Los Angeles, California.

*presented by
recovered
writer
R.C.*

Berg stated that in conversation with Martins, various names have been dropped by Martins, such as Dave Lewis, Joseph Oster, David Ferrie, Carlos Quiroza, Arcacha Smith, Guy Bannister, a woman named Louise, who is Guy Bannister's secretary, and a Dr. Cardona. Berg advised he has no idea who Dr. Cardona is or where he is from. He advised that he is not personally acquainted with any of the individuals mentioned by Martins but he has observed that one by one these various names are being mentioned in the news story. Berg stated that the newspapers were attempting to locate Jack Martins and Martins was unavailable for contact but called one of the TV stations and furnished them with Dave Lewis' name and address and suggested that he be interviewed regarding the investigation.

Martins has indicated in conversations with Berg and it is Berg's belief that it is indicated on the tape of the telephone conversation in the possession of R. C.

Cook that the Garrison investigation was originally based upon information made up by Martins and Lewis and given to Garrison. Lewis is supposed to have taken four lie detector tests from four different polygraph operators and is supposed to have passed all of the tests. Berg advised that it was his opinion that Lewis is of the mentality that could easily pass a lie detector test and Berg stated he regards him as a mental case. Berg advised that when the announcement was published in the New Orleans press that Clay Shaw, New Orleans businessman, was arrested by the District Attorney's Office as being a co-conspirator in the Kennedy assassination plot that Martins remarked that the arrest of Shaw was a "frame". From comments by Martins, Berg advised it was apparent that Martins was not aware that Shaw had been considered a suspect in the case.

Berg advised that it is his opinion that Martins is a mental case, completely untrustworthy and that Garrison is aware of this fact.

Berg advised that the only proof he has that Cook is involved with Jack Martins is a letter dated March 6, 1967, the original of which is in the files of Herman and Herman Attorneys, addressed to him from Cook, a copy of which he made available and is being set forth as follows:



R & S RESEARCH, INC.

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HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

March 6, 1967

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EVERYTHING FOR YOUR
INVESTIGATION NEEDS

Mr. Ray Berg
Pacesetters Publishing Co.
107 Camp
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Berg:

I have authorized my secretary by phone to forward this letter to you immediately. Please handle it with the utmost secrecy.

I need Shaw's home address, his former place of business address. Ferrie's apartment address (the one he died in). Oswald's address, where he stayed when he was in Louisiana and that little club, I can't think of the name of it and my secretary doesn't know where the records are, but its the one not too far from Jack's place where Oswald and Ferrie and possibly Ruby were supposed to have met.

Either call or send this information by Air Mail Special Delivery.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Very truly yours,

R & S RESEARCH, INC.

R. C. Cook, Sr. jmr
R. C. COOK, SR.
President

RCC;Sr/jmr

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Berg advised that he is not acquainted with any of the individuals whose names have been mentioned in the press and news service as being involved in the Garrison investigation. This includes William Perry Russo, David Ferrie and Archacha Smith and his only connection with Martins is as set forth. He advised he has no personal knowledge other than the information he has obtained from Jack Martins as to the details of the alleged plot. He stated that he is positive that the original investigation was a scheme of Jack Martins. //

Through contact with his attorney, Berg advised he has also learned some things which he cannot vouch for as being true. He stated that Attorney Baumler discussed with him the publication of a book which dealt with the practice of various masochists in the City of New Orleans. Berg stated he declined to publish the book, of which only seventy copies were planned to be printed, however, he has learned that there is a group of masochists numbering seventy prominent individuals in the City of New Orleans. The best he can piece together is that District Attorney James Garrison is a member of this group and also Jack Martins, Attorney Baumler and an individual by the name of Davis who Berg described as being a prominent member of the Citizens Council and a major political supporter of Jim Garrison.

Berg advised that he has no personal knowledge regarding this masochist group.

Berg advised that two weeks ago he received a telephone call from Jack Martins which Martins told him he had thirty minutes to live. Martins did not indicate why he only had thirty minutes to live. Berg stated the last information he had from Martins was that someone had "put a contract out for him". Berg advised he assumes that Martins thinks somebody is out to kill him.

Berg advised that he expects at any moment to be subpoenaed by District Attorney Garrison and if subpoenaed,

he plans to appear with his attorney and follow his attorney's advice as to what information he will furnish to the District Attorney's Office, Orleans Parish.

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