

REC 45

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62-109060-5032

*70's
Mildred Shigell
White House*

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. Shroder
- 1 - Mr. Raupach
- 1 - Mr. Loetterle

April 3, 1967

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

ROBERT CLAYTON BUICK

On April 20, 1966, Robert Clayton Buick was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury, Los Angeles, California, for violation of the Federal Bank Robbery Statute. These charges involved armed robberies of 22 Federally insured savings and loan associations in Southern California between July, 1961, and February, 1966. Pleading not guilty, Buick was tried and convicted and on December 9, 1966, in United States District Court at Los Angeles he received a sentence of 20 years. His attorney has indicated intent to appeal this sentence.

Investigation of Buick's activities prior to his apprehension on the bank robbery charges revealed that he had lived in various cities in Mexico, including Mexico City, Nogales, Juarez, and in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In these cities, Buick has fought in the bull ring as a bullfighter. Buick also owned and operated a marble importing business in Mexico City and San Diego, California.

Prior to his trial, Buick wrote several letters to the United States Attorney at Los Angeles requesting a conference to discuss an issue which he said "pertains to Dallas." Buick suggested that not to "sit in counsel" with him might force him to "create utter international chaos."

An Assistant United States Attorney, accompanied by Buick's attorney, endeavored to discuss this matter with him but Buick refused, indicating he would talk only with the United States Attorney, a Federal judge or Chief Justice Warren. The trial judge refused to grant a private audience to Buick and in view of the impending trial no further discussions were had with Buick.

Buick thereafter underwent psychiatric examination. The general conclusion of these examinations was that Buick was competent and responsible, even though perhaps sociopathic.

Buick indicated he had information relating to the possibility of other parties being involved in President Kennedy's assassination. [redacted] gave this account of Buick's

NOTE: See memo Rosen to DeLoach, captioned "Assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 11/23/63, Dallas, Texas," VFL: blw 4/4/67.

NOTATION
ON MEMORANDUM

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MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

ROBERT CLAYTON BUICK

statement: "He (Buick) said that by a chance of fate he knew of the meeting which planned the assassination. He stated that it had been on his conscience as to whether he should disclose this to the United States authorities at the proper level. He said in response to questioning that there is no direct connection between the bank robberies and the assassination. He said that he has been to the big boy and that he has documentary proof and two witnesses who have fled to another country. He said that he believes they could be reached 'if they are still healthy.' He said 'I'm an extreme idealist. My admiration for President Kennedy was very high. I would do almost anything, even if it meant my life to have the truth known.'"

[redacted] concluded: "As a result of my examination it is my opinion that his alleged information may be real and of some importance or possibly fictitious; however, I doubt if it is delusional or hallucinatory in character."

[redacted] in his psychiatric report of Buick diagnosed Buick to be a sociopathic personality and stated: "Subject admittedly tries to manipulate and 'deal' in his reportedly having dismissed his attorney, which he did not intend and in threatening to protract proceedings by calling many witnesses. His attempts to involve supposed knowledge of President Kennedy's assassination in his case appears to be also an attempt to manipulate, consistent with his personality type."

[redacted] in his psychiatric report of Buick stated: "This defendant is playing a very skillful game of trying to convey the impression that he has valuable information but he is unable to divulge it except to such people as the Chief Justice of the United States. He has the typical effrontery of the sociopath."

In the period following his trial, additional letters were directed by Buick to the United States Attorney and following receipt of a telephone call from Buick, Assistant United States Attorney Richard M. Coleman, after consulting with Buick's attorney, agreed to meet with Buick. Coleman had also received information that Buick, in a letter to his wife, made reference to the "news from New Orleans" saying, "it adds perfectly well" with what he has.

ROBERT CLAYTON BUICK

On March 23, 1967, Assistant United States Attorney Coleman and a United States Secret Service agent met with Buick. Buick promptly endeavored to discuss matters pertaining to his bank robbery trial alleging that there were irregularities in the conduct of his case. Mr. Coleman informed Buick that he was there to discuss information Buick allegedly possessed concerning the assassination and that the matters relating to his trial should be raised by appropriate procedures on appeal. Buick responded that there were other ways of dealing with these matters and that steps were being taken south of the border to obtain citizenship for him. Buick indicated he would not furnish the information he had concerning the assassination unless Coleman would guarantee his release from custody and transportation to Mexico. Mr. Coleman informed Buick that he was not empowered to make any deal but that he was there for the sole purpose of hearing the information he claimed to have concerning the assassination if he (Buick) wished to talk about it. Buick, however, refused to discuss the information on this basis, whereupon the interview was terminated.

On March 24, 1967, Buick telephonically contacted the Los Angeles Office stating he was writing to the President with copies for the Attorney General, the FBI Director and the United States Attorney, and he inquired as to whether his letters would be censored. Buick was advised that the FBI had no control over jail regulations.