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(S) 62-100000

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
 - 1 - Mr. Wick
 - 1 - Mr. Rosen
 - 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- BY LIAISON

TKF

Date: May 22, 1967

To: Director
Central Intelligence Agency

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

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

- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Lonihan
- 1 - Mr. Goble
- 1 - Liaison

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

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Section 4039
USC per CIA

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Classified by *SP/6*
Declassify on OADR 7/19/89 #6454
ARCIA letter 9/23/88.

On May 22, 1967, a letter was received at the New Orleans Office of this Bureau addressed to the Special Agent in Charge. The letter was from Jim Garrison, District Attorney, Parish of Orleans, and was delivered by hand. The letter was dated May 22, 1967, and read as follows:

"Dear Mr. Nightingale:

"Several days ago we obtained what appears to be the initial draft of a letter written by Gordon Novel shortly before his recent departure from New Orleans. This draft was written on yellow paper in pencil and appears to be an initial formulation of a letter which he subsequently wrote for mailing. I notice in his letter a reference to inquiries by the Bureau with regard to the Double-Check Corporation which he mentions. Consequently, I am enclosing for your information a photostat of the handwritten draft as well as our typewritten transcript.

"I am sure that you are much more familiar with Double-Check than we are but we have noted that in 'The Invisible Government,' the recent book by Wise and How about the C.I.A., Double-Check is mentioned on pages 72, 80, 85 - 88, 93 - 94, 124

- Lepp*
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Director
Central Intelligence Agency

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and 200. As you will note, the photostat of the handwritten draft is not very distinct. If you desire, I will be happy to make the original draft available for inspection by a representative of your office or we can photograph copies and send them to you.

"I will be happy to make available to the Bureau any other information which we may have which may be of service in this connection.

Sincerely,

Jim Garrison
District Attorney"

Garrison's letter contained a photostat of the handwritten draft referred to in it, as well as a type-written transcript of this draft. The transcript read as follows:

"Transcript of written draft of letter found in apartment of Gordon Novel after his departure from the city.

"Dear Mr. Weiss:

"This letter is to inform you that District (sic) Jim Garrison has subpoenaed myself and an associate to testify before his Grand Jury on matters which may be classified Top Secret. Actions of individuals connected with Double-Chek Corporation in Miami in first quarter of 1961. We have no current contact available to inform of this situation so I took the liberty of writing you direct and apprising you of current situation. Expecting you to forward this through appropriate channels.

"Our connection and activity of that period involves individuals presently...about to be indicted as conspirators in Mr. Garrison's investigation.

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"We have temporarily advised our subjects not to reveal Double-Chek activities or associates from this time on. It was one of our subjects, William E. ... who was told to expect another subpoena to appear and testify on this matter. The Fifth Amendment and/or immunity (and) legal tactics will not suffice.

"Mr. Garrison is in possession of certain portions of this testimony. He is unaware of Double-Chek's involvement in this matter but has strong suspicions. I have been questioned extensively by local FBI recently as to whether or not I was involved with Double-Chek's parent-holding corporation during that time. My reply on five queries was negative. Bureau unaware of Double-Chek association in this matter. Our attorney's and others are in possession of complete sealed files containing all information concerning matter. In the event of our sudden departure, either accidental or otherwise, they are instructed to simultaneously release same for public scrutiny in different areas simultaneously.

"Appropriate counteraction relative to Garrison's inquiry concerning us may best be handled through military channels via (a) via S.I.A. com. Garrison is presently Colonel in Louisiana Army National Guard and has ready reserve status. Contact may be had through our attorneys of current record Nathan, Alvarez, Capor."

For your information, Gordon Nevel is an individual who until recently lived in New Orleans. Garrison has been trying to bring him back to New Orleans to testify before the Grand Jury there.

The files of this Bureau contain no references identifiable with Mr. Weiss, based on the information received from Garrison.

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Your observations on the information received from Mr. Garrison are desired, specifically, your observations concerning the Double-Check Corporation and whether or not Gordon Novel had any connection with it. We intend to furnish the information received from Garrison, together with your comments concerning it, to the Attorney General. We are taking no investigative action regarding Garrison's letter and are not acknowledging it.

NOTE:

See memorandum Mr. W. A. Branigan to Mr. W. C. Sullivan dated 5/24/67, same caption, prepared by TNG:as.

*See Memo Papich-Brown
5/25/67 for CIA reply*

*[Signature]
5/25/67*

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