

Memorandum

- 1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. T. E. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. A. Rosen

REC-28

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: January 15, 1968

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

- 1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. R. E. Lenihan

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

KW
2/15/68

The purpose of this memorandum is to present a concise analysis of an article appearing in the January 28, 1968, issue of the "National Enquirer" newspaper entitled "Suppressed JFK Murder Evidence." The Director instructed "Let me have memo on this article re Kennedy assassination." H.

The "National Enquirer" is a well-known, sex-type newspaper. It is totally unreliable and is known to feature wild sensational stories. The article currently appearing in the "National Enquirer" is no exception to this.

The article reports that Richard Giesbrecht, a Canadian insurance salesman, claims to have overheard a conversation in 1964 which proves Lee Harvey Oswald had not acted alone in the Kennedy assassination. The article also alleged that Giesbrecht's fantastic evidence had been previously passed on to an FBI Agent but ended up in secret Washington files. The article reports that Giesbrecht has now given the information to the press and has also been in contact with New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison.

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The allegations of Giesbrecht as contained in the "National Enquirer," are not new although they are considerably exaggerated, embellished and of a sensational nature in the current article. Our files disclose that on February 27, 1964, Giesbrecht informed Special Agent Merle R. Nelson* that while in a bar in the Winnipeg International Airport in Canada on February 13, 1964, he overheard a conversation between two unknown individuals apparently discussing Lee Harvey Oswald. Reference was made as to "how did Oswald know" and to "Isaacs," apparently an acquaintance of Oswald's who was "seen near President Kennedy" in Dallas, Texas. Giesbrecht also claimed these two unknown individuals made reference to papers or merchandise coming in from Nevada and also made reference to Kansas City, Missouri.

Enclosure

62-109060

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

REL:as

CONTINUED - OVER

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Senior Resident Agent, Grand Forks, North Dakota

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Memorandum to Mr. W. J. Sullivan
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD (NEUD)
62-109060

Giesbrecht informed Special Agent Nelson that he made brief notes of the conversation of the two unknown individuals but suddenly noticed a third individual on the other side of the room staring at him. He speculated that the latter individual may have received a signal from the two unknown men involving Giesbrecht. Giesbrecht stated he hurriedly left the bar, destroyed his notes and proceeded home. Giesbrecht claimed he was frightened and requested his identity not be disclosed by Special Agent Nelson.

The information furnished by Giesbrecht to Special Agent Nelson was included in a Minneapolis report which was disseminated to the Warren Commission. Logical investigation by us disproved numerous parts of Giesbrecht's allegation and failed to confirm verifiable portions of his story.

We later learned that Giesbrecht was attempting to peddle his story to Richard Vincent, Manager of KCND-TV, Pembina, North Dakota. When queried by Vincent as to why he did not furnish the story to appropriate Canadian authorities, Giesbrecht stated he felt the story would be buried by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and that the Winnipeg papers were not big enough to handle it. Giesbrecht told Vincent his story "should be worth something." Vincent described Giesbrecht as a beer-drinking type, childlike and one who felt he could possibly obtain some money from his story.

Our checks in Canada disclosed Giesbrecht had an arrest record for robbery and theft in 1951 and for assault in 1954. He was also arrested for theft in 1949 but this charge was stayed by Canadian authorities.

In the current "National Enquirer" article, Giesbrecht alleged that Special Agent Nelson told him he should not reveal his story to anyone as "it's too big." Giesbrecht also claimed that Special Agent Nelson stated in regard to Giesbrecht's information "This is the break we've been looking for."

The allegations Giesbrecht makes against Special Agent Nelson of the Minneapolis Office are completely false. Special Agent in Charge Richard G. Held of the Minneapolis Office has contacted Special Agent Nelson in this matter who emphatically denied making the statements attributed to him by Giesbrecht. It is obvious that Giesbrecht is a publicity seeker who is trying to obtain remuneration for a wild allegation involving the assassination.

ACTION:

For the Director's information. The "National Enquirer" article is enclosed.