



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
March 5, 1968

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

On February 23, 1968, the Warden of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, McAlester, Oklahoma, advised the Federal Bureau of Investigation that Jerry Don Shelton, an inmate of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, presently serving time at the Vocational Training School, Stringtown, Oklahoma, had been found to be in possession of a considerable amount of papers, news clippings and other similar data relating to the Kennedy assassination. The warden advised that Shelton was being returned to the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, McAlester, along with the material in his possession.

On February 26, 1968, during an examination of the material found in Shelton's possession, a letter dated December 16, 1967, in an unstamped envelope was located. The envelope was addressed to Life Magazine, Incorporated, Rockefeller Center, New York City, New York, 10020. This letter is listed as follows:

"Dear Sir:

"I am writing in regard to information I have concerning the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. I was involved in the assassination plot and participating in carrying it out.

"I am about to make public for the first time ever the true facts surrounding this act.

This document contains neither
conclusions of any kind. It is for your information
and it is a letter to your agency. It is not to be distributed outside your agency.

62-1049-622
ENCLOSURE

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"As I have already stated, I was involved and now I'm ready to face up to the consequences regardless of what punishment I may receive.

"Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in the story. I have written to District Attorney Jim Garrison, as well as the Secret Service but haven't as yet mailed them.

"I am no crackpot, nor am I an insane person. Please believe me.

"Thanking you in advance

"Jerry Don Shelton"

A second letter dated December 15, 1967, was found in an unstamped envelope addressed to Mr. Jim Garrison, District Attorney, County Courthouse, New Orleans, Louisiana. This letter is listed as follows:

"Dear Mr. Garrison:

"I have been thinking of writing you now for several weeks as you are the only one I know who really seems interested in solving the Kennedy assassination.

"Mr. Garrison I know all you are seeking and please get in touch with me soon before it's too late.

"I am involved and will tell you and only you everything I know.

"This is no joke and I am by no means a crackpot or an insane person. Everything I will tell you is actual fact.

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"Hoping to hear from you real soon.

"Jerry Don Shelton"

The contents of five large manila envelopes were examined. Nothing was found in these envelopes except newspaper clippings, magazine clippings, and pages torn from books. The clippings included a large number of newspaper photographs and stories concerning the assassination of President Kennedy, stories pertaining to Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby, Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, Governor John Connally, District Attorney James Garrison, Clay Shaw, the Warren Commission; in addition to clippings pertaining to authors of books concerning the Kennedy assassination. In addition, the envelopes contained a number of news clippings concerning Richard Speck and the murder of eight nurses in Chicago. Several clippings were found regarding Charles Whitman who shot and killed several persons from a tower in Austin, Texas. Many news clippings, magazine articles and pages torn from books were found pertaining to the following person or subjects:

John Wilks Booth and the assassination of President Lincoln, the death of three astronauts in a burning space capsule, the automobile accident death of Jayne Mansfield in Louisiana, several articles pertaining to James Hoffa, several clippings concerning Cassius Clay, several news clippings concerning the death of Jim McKenzie, the Oklahoma University football coach, several articles pertaining to Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, and numerous other clippings pertaining to miscellaneous crimes, including robbery of a supermarket, banks and counterfeit money in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The following description of Shelton was obtained from records of Oklahoma State Penitentiary:

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The following description of Shelton was obtained
from records of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary:

Name	Jerry Don Shelton
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'-7"
Weight	144 pounds
Build	Medium
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Ruddy
Date of Birth	April 10, 1924
Place of Birth	Chickasha, Oklahoma
FBI No.	759 523 D
Occupation	Laborer
Education	Ninth grade
Tattoos	"MOM" upper left arm; heart on left forearm; woman upper right arm; dagger right arm.
Marital Status	Divorced from Elaine Gilliam - Oklahoma City, address unknown
Children	None
Mother	Minola Shelton, 3158 Stonewall, Ada, Oklahoma
Brothers	Clell Shelton (41) Ada, Oklahoma, address unknown; Ted Shelton (29), 1420 Southwest 17th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Bob Shelton (27), Ada, Oklahoma, address unknown; Bill Shelton (25) 1420 Southwest 17th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Sisters	Bernadine O'Brien (38), Ada, Oklahoma, address unknown; Sue Johnson (35), Route 4, Ada, Oklahoma; Violet Slinger, (32) Route 4, Ada, Oklahoma

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The records of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary
further revealed that Shelton [REDACTED]

During an interview with Shelton on February 26, 1968, at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary with the Deputy Warden present, Shelton readily admitted writing the two letters to Jim Garrison and Life Magazine, which were found in Shelton's possession, on February 23, 1968. He said that at the time he wrote the letters he fully intended to mail them in order to get publicity from Life Magazine and further, to show Garrison how wrong he could be. Shelton said that he has observed that Garrison seems to be the gullible type who believes everything that anyone tells him. He said that from the volume of information he had been able to obtain from newspaper clippings concerning the Kennedy assassination, he thought that he would be able to convince Garrison that he was involved in the plot. According to Shelton, after writing the letters he had reconsidered and decided not to mail them. The letters had been in Shelton's locker at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary Vocational Training School at Stringtown, Oklahoma, since December 16, 1967, when he wrote them.

Shelton advised that he had absolutely no personal knowledge or information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. He said that he had never been in New Orleans, Louisiana, or Dallas, Texas. He claimed that he did not know anyone whose names have been mentioned in connection with the Kennedy assassination.

Shelton advised that he enjoyed reading and simply saved news clippings as a hobby to break the regular prison routine and boredom.