

FBI

Date: 7/3/68

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Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (72-111) (P)
SUBJECT: ALLEGED EFFORTS TO
INFLUENCE TESTIMONY OF
EDWARD GRADY PARTIN
OOJ
(OO: NEW ORLEANS)

Re New Orleans airtel and letterhead memorandum to Bureau, 6/28/68, and Bureau airtel to New Orleans, 7/1/68.

Extensive file reviews of approximately 50 individuals who appear to be pertinent to instant investigation are now completed.

Although the Grand Jury transcripts requested of the Department in referenced letterhead memorandum have not been received to date, some selected interviews will be conducted in the interests of expediency. Appointments are currently being set up to interview GEORGE OWEN WYATT and MORRIS LEVITON BROWNLEE, whose Grand Jury transcriptions are already in possession of this Office.

Judge WILLIAM HAWK DANIELS voluntarily contacted the New Orleans Office to arrange an appointment to furnish information not described by him on the telephone, but to date DANIELS has failed to appear for two scheduled

2 - MR. RAO, Crim Div
1 - MR. Tolson 7/8/68
(3) - Bureau (Encs. 6) (RM)
2 - New Orleans
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(5)

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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

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BSC:pd

appointments. DANIELS allegedly identified several persons involved in a plan to change EDWARD GRADY PARTIN's testimony, according to the New Orleans Times Picayune newspaper dated April 9, 1968.

In accordance with Bureau instructions contained in referenced Bureau airtel dated July 1, 1968, efforts are currently being made to interview LOUIS DAVIS and through him ascertain the identity of the unknown male and thereafter conduct interview with this individual.

GEORGE OWEN WYATT, in accordance with Bureau instructions, will be made to clearly understand that the FBI cannot afford him protection.

It is to be noted that some of the individuals who are apparently involved in instant investigation have been involved, either officially or unofficially, with the investigation being conducted by Orleans Parish District Attorney JIM GARRISON into an alleged conspiracy to assassinate President JOHN F. KENNEDY.

Set forth below are the results of file review checks on some of the individuals who appear to be directly involved in the instant investigation. Where these individuals were also involved in the GARRISON investigation, it will be so noted.

MORRIS LEVITON/BROWNLEE

On November 26, 1963, FREDERICK O'SULLIVAN, detective, New Orleans Police Department, advised he was a high school classmate of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and that OSWALD was associated with DAVE FERRIE, now deceased, who was also involved in the GARRISON investigation. O'SULLIVAN stated that MORRIS BROWNLEE was a good friend of FERRIE.

[REDACTED] on February 26, 1967,
advised [REDACTED] BROWNLEE was a [REDACTED]
and a [REDACTED] who had worked as an inves-
tigator for G. GRAY GILL, a New Orleans attorney

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who represented some of the individuals who were called as witnesses in the Orleans Parish Grand Jury investigation into the GARRISON investigation of the KENNEDY assassination.

PERSHING OLIVER GERVAIS

This individual is the former chief investigator for the Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office under District Attorney JIM GARRISON. GERVAIS is a former New Orleans Police Department detective who was fired for conduct unbecoming a police officer several years ago. For a number of years GERVAIS furnished information to this Office as a result of his close association with hoodlums in the New Orleans area.

JACK S. MARTIN

This individual is a private investigator in the New Orleans area and is reputedly the individual who initially furnished information to District Attorney JIM GARRISON, the basis of which GARRISON initiated his investigation into the KENNEDY assassination.

MARTIN has more recently been officially associated with the Louisiana State Labor Management Commission in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, serving in the capacity of an investigator.

HARRY F. ROBERTS

ROBERTS is a former Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and maintains a private investigative service in Shreveport, Louisiana. He has been serving as Chief Investigator of the Louisiana State Labor Management Commission, but reportedly severed his association with this Commission effective July 1, 1938.

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ROBERTS reportedly conducted investigation on behalf of CLAY L. SHAW following SHAW's arrest by District Attorney JIM GARRISON as a conspirator in GARRISON's investigation of President KENNEDY's assassination.

WADE MC CLANAHAN

MC CLANAHAN, a close associate of EDWARD G. PARTIN and an official of PARTIN's Teamsters Local No. 5 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in about May, 1968, offered to cooperate with the Louisiana State Labor Management Commission. The purpose of this cooperation was to have MC CLANAHAN furnish evidence against PARTIN. MC CLANAHAN later refused to cooperate with the Labor Management Commission investigators and revealed publicly the Commission's efforts to bribe him to get him to sign a statement involving PARTIN in criminal activities.

DR. BERTRAND O. TYSON

Colonel THOMAS BURBANK, director, Department of Public Safety, State of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, advised on May 19, 1967, that he had had a conference with STOKELY CARMICHAEL and Dr. BERTRAND O. TYSON, with whom CARMICHAEL was staying at Plaquemine, Louisiana. They advised Colonel BURBANK that CARMICHAEL would remain at TYSON's residence throughout that evening and night, and that CARMICHAEL would remain there until his departure on May 20, 1967. CARMICHAEL, the former Chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, spoke in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at Southern University, on the night of May 18, 1967, and also spent the night of May 18, 1967, with Dr. TYSON.

The August 20, 1963, edition of the Morning Advocate, a Baton Rouge, Louisiana, daily newspaper, in an article entitled "Negroes

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"Demonstrate in Iberville" states that Dr. BERTRAND O. TYSON, 1519 Mirian Street, (Plaquemine, Louisiana) was arrested for disturbing the peace and committing or inciting violence.

Mr. DAVID WHITE, B.F.J. Communications Company, 3116 North Arcadian Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, advised on July 25, 1967, that a short time prior to that date Dr. BERTRAND O. TYSON, Plaquemine, Louisiana, had purchased two citizen band radios. Mr. WHITE advised that he had learned that these radios had been forwarded to L. I. DAVIS, care of Davis Music Store, Post Office Box 49, Savanna, L. Mar., Jamaica, West Indies.

As a matter of courtesy, the New Orleans Office will advise Louisiana Governor JOHN J. MC KEITHEN of this investigation on July 8, 1968, UACB.

Enclosed are the original and five copies of a letter-head memorandum for the Department requesting additional information referred to in their letter of June 14, 1968, which information is not available to the New Orleans Office.