

FBI

Date: 6/26/75

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-109060) REC-5
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (62-1827) (RUC)

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Remynitel to the Bureau, 4/18/75; Bureau airtel to Buffalo, 5/19/75; Los Angeles airtel to the Bureau, 5/29/75; New Orleans airtel to the Bureau, 6/6/75; Bureau airtel to Buffalo, 6/18/75.

On 6/24/75, RICHARD MONROE MARGESON, Webster Road, Town of Middlebury, Wyoming County, New York 14591, telephone number 716-495-6837, was interviewed at his residence and he advised as follows:

MARGESON is a white male, born 6/16/27 at Rochester, New York. He attended four years of high school but received no high school diploma. He completed a two year correspondence course in Traffic Management and a one year correspondence course in Law. He was previously employed as a can machine mechanic for T. J. Lipton Co., Albion, New York, until he was laid off in October 1974 and has been unemployed since that time. However, MARGESON is

- 2 - Bureau (AM)
 - 2 - Dallas (99-43) (AM)
 - 2 - Los Angeles (105-15823) (AM)
 - 2 - New Orleans (39-69) (AM)
 - 1 - Buffalo
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Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

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a farmer and operates the farm at his residence and breeds and raises dogs.

MARGESON and his wife resided in the Los Angeles, California area from 1950 through 1972. In 1960, MARGESON secured a position as a Material Handler for Recold Corp., Slausen Avenue, Los Angeles. He was residing on Trigg Street in East Los Angeles at that time, which MARGESON described as an area chiefly comprised of Mexican Americans. During 1960, MARGESON met LAWRENCE J. HOWARD, JR., who was a welder at Recold Corp. MARGESON described HOWARD as a white male of Mexican descent whose father was from the United States and his mother was from Mexico. He said that HOWARD was in his late 20's or early 30's at that time and was approximately 6 feet in height, 300 lbs., large build, black hair, brown eyes, medium complexion and wore a large Fu Manchu mustache. HOWARD's residence was only a few blocks from where MARGESON lived. HOWARD was married and his wife, whose name is unknown to MARGESON, was of Mexican heritage and was employed by the Telephone Co. *CALIF 1445-115*

[REDACTED]

During most of 1960, the employees of Recold Corp. who were members of the United Auto Workers union local, were on strike. HOWARD was the leader of the Education Committee of this union, and MARGESON was a member of the committee. The striking employees were replaced by Recold Corp. with out-of-state employees in order to maintain Recold Corp.'s operations. Although HOWARD and MARGESON devoted some of their time to union activities, both had ample time to pursue their hobbies of camping, hunting, guns and fast draw contests. Because of their common employment and since they were both avid gun and hunting buffs, HOWARD and MARGESON spent a considerable amount of time together. *h. aff. - 114*

There was a lot of publicity regarding CASTRO and Cuba at that time and it soon became common knowledge in the area where MARGESON resided that recruiting efforts were being made, particularly among Spanish speaking people, for volunteers to organize into an anti-CASTRO group. HOWARD became interested in this anti-CASTRO movement and decided to become involved in recruiting volunteers. Although MARGESON was spending most of his time researching possible lost gold mines, he sometimes accompanied

HOWARD in his recruiting efforts. HOWARD and MARGESON would drive around at night in the areas where Cuban refugees were living in the Los Angeles area and would attempt to recruit volunteers for an anti-CASTRO group at gas stations, parking lots and other places where Cuban refugees would congregate. MARGESON was unable to understand these conversations because HOWARD spoke to the Cuban refugees in Spanish and MARGESON does not understand that language. The purpose of these efforts was to recruit a volunteer guerilla army and to raise funds to train and support this army for an invasion into Cuba. MARGESON commented that he observed the volatile Latin temperament displayed by HOWARD, other Mexican Americans and the Cuban refugees and that this temperament possibly explains their extreme emotions in connection with the anti-CASTRO movement.

Sometime during 1961, HOWARD went to Florida for the purpose of training volunteers for the guerilla army which was to invade Cuba. HOWARD seemed particularly suited for this activity in view of his expertise in handling firearms and knives. HOWARD told MARGESON he had served in the U. S. Army and had received a medical discharge because of an injury to his foot. MARGESON had noticed that HOWARD limped after he had been walking for a prolonged period of time. MARGESON received a postcard from HOWARD and the postcard was from Marathon Key, Florida in the Florida Keys. HOWARD mentioned Big Pine and Little Pine as being nearby Marathon Key, and MARGESON assumed that the guerilla warfare training was taking place in that area.

HOWARD returned to Los Angeles after several months arriving sometime in 1962. Accompanying HOWARD was RUDY HERNANDEZ, a white male of Mexican descent, in his 20's, 5'2" to 5'4" in height, stocky build, black hair and a dark complexion. Also accompanying HOWARD was a white male, age in the late 20's, 5'8" to 5'9", 150-165 lbs., slender build, whom MARGESON knew only as "SLIM." HOWARD resided with his wife in their home near MARGESON's residence and HERNANDEZ and "SLIM" resided in the Olive Hotel, Olive Street, Los Angeles. HERNANDEZ, "SLIM" and MARGESON obtained employment painting and refurbishing the Old Union Temple Building located behind the Los Angeles Greyhound Bus Station, which was supervised by a man named JACK CASEY. This building

reportedly housed the Marquade (ph) Printing Shop in the basement which at that time was engaged in printing the original draft of RICHARD M. NIXON's book after he lost the Presidential election. HOWARD, HERNANDEZ and "SLIM" began talking about a man called "TEX" who was coming to Los Angeles from New Orleans. From their comments, MARGESON learned that "TEX" was not involved in the guerilla training in Florida but that "TEX" was apparently considered to be a very important person by MARGESON's friends. They indicated that "TEX" was one of their people and implied that he had something to do with the Cuban invasion. HOWARD had mentioned that on his way back to Los Angeles from Florida, he had driven a car from New Orleans to Los Angeles for a company involved in "dead-heading," or relocating cars. In late 1962 or early 1963, "TEX" arrived in Los Angeles and roomed with HERNANDEZ and "SLIM" in the Olive Hotel. MARGESON described "TEX" as a white male, age in his late 20's or early 30's, 5'8" to 5'9" in height, 150-160 lbs., slender build, brown hair and medium complexion. MARGESON was curious about "TEX" because of the fuss made over him by his friends and, prior to "TEX"'s arrival, MARGESON approached HOWARD with the suggestion of MARGESON having "TEX" to his home for dinner. HOWARD's first reaction was one of reluctance but eventually he conceded. When "TEX" arrived, MARGESON drove to the Olive Hotel in order to take "TEX" back to MARGESON's home for dinner. MARGESON found that it was very difficult to make conversation with "TEX." Many times "TEX" would not reply to a question and generally had a very dull personality. "TEX" told MARGESON he had never been in the Los Angeles area before. In anticipation of introducing "TEX" to his wife, MARGESON asked "TEX" his name. At first, "TEX" hesitated but then told MARGESON his name. Although MARGESON is not positive, he believes that "TEX" gave the name of LEE HARVEY or HARVEY LEE. MARGESON said he recalls these names through word association based on the fact he has a relative by the name of LEE and another relative by the name of HARVEY. After eating a delicious home cooked meal, "TEX" did not even bother to thank MARGESON or MARGESON's wife.

"TEX" began working in the Old Union Temple Building with HERNANDEZ, "SLIM" and MARGESON. The supervisor of this work, JACK CASEY, was seldom on the job and therefore, MARGESON and the others spent only a small amount of their time actually working with most of their time being devoted to

"bull sessions." "TEX" gave the impression that he was a rough and tumble type person who liked the idea of guerilla type warfare, however, MARGESON was told by the others that "TEX" had received an undesirable or a bad conduct discharge from the military. MARGESON did not hold this against "TEX" since MARGESON received a bad conduct discharge from the military. "TEX" frequently talked about making "big money" and his schemes usually involved violence. As an example, MARGESON recalled "TEX" talking about a guerilla type raid on a diamond mine in Peru in which everyone in the mine would be killed and a fortune in diamonds would be seized. "TEX" mentioned something about a \$50,000 reward for CASTRO's head. One of "TEX"'s peculiarities was determining how quickly he could get from the top of the building in which they were working to the lobby and he would frequently challenge someone to a race. MARGESON said he did not know how "TEX" got from the top of the building to the lobby because they took different routes in their races but he thought that "TEX" might be sliding down the elevator cables. In one of their bull sessions, MARGESON asked "TEX" if he and his group had any contact with the CIA. In response, "TEX" took a scrap of paper out of his wallet and showed it to MARGESON. This scrap of paper had a name and telephone number on it. MARGESON cannot recall the name but remembers that it was the name of a prominent family in the South. "TEX"'s purpose in showing MARGESON this name was to show MARGESON that he had connections with important people. "TEX" stayed for about one month and then left the Los Angeles area, not indicating where he was going, and MARGESON never heard from "TEX" again. HERNANDEZ and "SLIM" left at the same time, but MARGESON does not know if they left together. During the time that MARGESON and the others were working in the Old Union Temple Building, HOWARD never came to that building, and MARGESON got the impression that HOWARD intentionally avoided being seen with that group at that building but MARGESON did not know the reason.

After the Bay of Pigs incident, MARGESON asked HOWARD what he intended to do since the Cuban invasion had failed. Although HOWARD never made any statements, MARGESON felt HOWARD implied that he or someone associated with the anti-CASTRO movement intended to do something very spectacular and to blame it on CASTRO. This incident was to be so horrendous as to put the United States Government in such a position that they would be forced to openly invade Cuba.

Around October 1963, MARGESON moved from Trigg Street to East 53rd Street, Maywood, California, and he lost contact with HOWARD. At that time, HOWARD was working for a trailer manufacturer on Whittier Blvd. in Los Angeles. MARGESON saw HOWARD's name and address in the Los Angeles Times in connection with HOWARD being subpoenaed by former District Attorney GARRISON, New Orleans, Louisiana, during the course of GARRISON's investigation of the assassination of President KENNEDY. MARGESON and his wife drove to this address which he believes was in San Gabriel or South San Gabriel in order to see HOWARD and talk over old times. MARGESON recalled that HOWARD resided near Rose Mead Blvd. When MARGESON and his wife arrived at HOWARD's residence, there was a truck camper parked in the driveway with a Cadillac parked behind it. MARGESON rang the doorbell and could hear voices inside through the partially opened front door. HOWARD came to the door with an automatic pistol in his hand looking out of the door cautiously to see who was there. When HOWARD recognized MARGESON, he told MARGESON he was busy at the moment and asked MARGESON to return in about an hour. When MARGESON returned in an hour, HOWARD again came to the door with the pistol in his hand. HOWARD then put the pistol in his belt and invited the MARGESONS inside. During the time they were talking, MARGESON noticed that there was another automatic pistol on the telephone stand near the sofa and HOWARD indicated during their discussion that he had seven loaded guns in his house. HOWARD told MARGESON that things were a little tough since he had been subpoenaed to testify in New Orleans. He showed MARGESON an envelope and said that it contained his airplane tickets to New Orleans and a letter from DA GARRISON. MARGESON asked HOWARD if he were going to go to New Orleans to testify. HOWARD answered that the man who had just been at his home who was driving the Cadillac was HOWARD's attorney and that he had been taking HOWARD's deposition so that HOWARD would not have to go testify. HOWARD said that if he were to go to New Orleans that they might lock him up and lose the key.

HOWARD told MARGESON that his wife and two daughters were with his mother and that he was staying in his home alone. HOWARD commented that he did not know who could be an enemy and that he had to be very cautious. MARGESON commented that HOWARD was not the kind of person who ever seemed to be afraid of anything but that he appeared

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very frightened at that time. MARGESON believes that this visit took place in 1968.

After this visit, MARGESON lost contact with HOWARD. MARGESON stated that he subsequently observed a great deal of national publicity in the various media concerning the arrest of HOWARD and five other individuals in a 38 foot boat off the Florida coast for a violation of the Neutrality Act. The names of the other five individuals were Cuban names. HOWARD was in possession of a 7 mm or .32 caliber Browning automatic pistol that MARGESON had previously sold to HOWARD.

MARGESON's curiosity concerning the activities of HOWARD, HERNANDEZ, "SLIM" and "TEX" was aroused when the Watergate incident was receiving so much publicity. MARGESON speculated that HOWARD, who always described himself as a soldier of fortune, must have been involved in President KENNEDY's assassination and that this was the incident HOWARD meant when he referred to something that would force the United States to invade Cuba. MARGESON also speculated that HOWARD must have known E. HOWARD HUNT because E. HOWARD HUNT spent time in Florida when he was with the CIA and that HUNT would have known anyone such as HOWARD who was involved in training guerillas for a possible invasion of Cuba.

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MARGESON began thinking about "TEX" when he reviewed photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. MARGESON stated that "TEX" looked very much like LEE HARVEY OSWALD but that he is certain that "TEX" is not OSWALD because their mouths were considerably different and OSWALD had a "weaker" chin. MARGESON said that the November 1971 edition of True magazine contains an article concerning Alpha 66, a Miami based militant Cuban exile group. The author of this article was DEANE E. BOSTICK. This same magazine contains a photograph of BOSTICK which seems to MARGESON to be identical to HOWARD. The magazine also contains some information concerning BOSTICK, describing BOSTICK as a free lance writer and a soldier of fortune who had been involved in the seizure of a 38 foot boat by the U. S. Coast Guard in the straits between Florida and Cuba in early September of that year and that this boat contained ammunition and parts of a .50 caliber machine gun. The magazine indicated that BOSTICK was released on a \$2,500 bond on his own recognizance and that charges against him were later dropped.

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MARGESON stated that he does not actually have any information which would connect HOWARD or any of HOWARD's friends with the assassination of President KENNEDY. He explained that he had a lot of free time since he lost his job in October 1974 and that he had started thinking about these matters and formulating his own theories. He said that his memory has become somewhat hazy and that he is uncertain as to names and dates and much of the other information.

It was pointed out to MARGESON that some of the information he had furnished was contradictory to that furnished by Sheriff ALLEN L. CAPWELL, Wyoming County, Warsaw, New York, as related by CAPWELL as having been told to him by MARGESON. MARGESON stated that his only explanation is that Sheriff CAPWELL must have misunderstood him.

It is noted that MARGESON's home has the appearance of a one room shack and was in a disorderly condition. MARGESON was contacted at approximately 8:15 AM and still had not arisen. Although MARGESON speaks relatively well, he appears to confuse fact with his own theories. ?

Dallas, Los Angeles and New Orleans evaluate results of the above interview and advise the Bureau.