

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana
February 5, 1968

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

William S. Walter, mentioned by District Attorney James Garrison on the "Tonight Show" as being source of information regarding TWX message to FBI Offices, voluntarily appeared at the New Orleans Office of the FBI on February 5, 1968, and advised he had furnished complete information concerning his contacts with Mark Lane to the Jacksonville Office of the FBI. Walter stated upon return to his apartment located at 1533 Jackson Avenue, New Orleans, approximately 12:30 PM, February 2, 1968, he found a letter from Mark Lane which had been slipped under the door of his apartment. //

Walter made available this letter from Lane which is as follows:

"A considerable period of time has passed since you informed me that you would contact me. I have called the telephone number that you gave to me and there has been no answer. I have visited your apartment and no one has been home.

"In the circumstances I feel that I should repeat my statement to you. There are two ways that the material that you referred to may be used. Either you may give to me the telegram which speaks for itself and I give to you the assurance again that your name will not be mentioned in connection with it or I recommend to Mr. Garrison that he use all of the other data available including a sworn statement by me as to our conversation. Mr. Garrison is most reluctant to utilize a statement which refers to you by name but if no other proof is available I do not see how he can do anything else. This step would be obviated by your delivering the telegram or a copy of it to me.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
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"The President is dead. His murderers remain unpunished and the American people uninformed as to the details of his death. You are in a position to bring about a dramatic change in that very unsatisfactory state of affairs. I hope you will do so voluntarily. Should you refuse to do so then I will advise Mr. Garrison that it is my very strong opinion that a statement from me, referring in detail to our conversation, should be publicly released within the next fortyeight to seventytwo hours." Xerox copy of letter attached hereto.

Walter stated approximately 2:00 PM, February 2, 1968, he called the telephone number listed at the bottom of this letter and a maid who answered the telephone furnished a telephone number where Mark Lane could be reached. He called this number which was the telephone number of District Attorney Garrison's Office and asked to speak to Mark Lane. Walter said he told Lane who he was and Lane said he had been trying to get in touch with him and had written letters to him, called him at his apartment and contacted his apartment, but had been unable to reach him. Walter said he told Lane he understood that he had made the news and that he had seen the television program. Walter claims he told Lane he did not approve of what they were doing and the information attributed to him on the television program was totally false and that he emphatically denied the statements attributed to him at any time.

Lane informed Walter that they believed he had valuable information and they thought the release of this information on television the best thing to do under the circumstances since Walter could not be contacted.

Walter said he told Lane, "You mean the only thing you could do was to attribute statements to me on national television that were totally false. I did not say these things to you or anyone else".

Walter said Lane told him that the best thing they could do would be to take him before the Grand Jury and find out whether he had any information. Walter said he told Lane to go ahead and bring him before the Grand Jury, that he had nothing to hide and could only tell the truth.

Walter said he told Lane that he wanted Lane to know that he thought the Bureau was a fine organization and that he did not approve of what he was trying to do by involving him in

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the investigation and that he had no information of value concerning their investigation. Lane told Walter that he knew what they could do and that he could not hide from them. Lane suggested that if a TWX message existed Walter should contact his friends who were formerly employed by the FBI and obtain a copy of this message and send it to Lane.

Walter claims that above telephone conversation with Lane lasted for approximately five minutes. He said he has contacted Attorney Guy Wooten in New Orleans, with whom he intends to confer in detail in the immediate future. Walter said he does not plan to testify before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury in connection with Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

Walter stated that he had recalled additional information which he did not furnish during interview at the Jacksonville Office of the FBI. He stated that during his first conversation with Lane, Lane mentioned to him that they already had information about the TWX message and that there are people who are putting their jobs on the line and their lives on the line and are cooperating with them. Walter said Lane did not indicate whether or not these people were employees of the FBI and did not furnish any information as to their identity.

Walter said it was his impression that Lane was endeavoring to locate disgruntled former employees of the FBI who might be persuaded to cooperate with them in their investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

January 23, 1968

To William S Walter
From Mark Lane

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In the circumstances I feel that I should repeat my statement to you. There are two ways that the material that you referred to may be used. Either you may give to me the telegram which speaks for itself and I give to you the assurance again that your name will not be mentioned in connection with it or I recommend to Mr Garrison that he use all of the other data available including a sworn statement by me as to our conversation. Mr Garrison is most reluctant to utilize a statement which refers to you by name but if no other proof is available I do not see how he can do anything else. This step would be obviated by your delivering the telegram or a copy of it to me.

The President is dead. His murderers remain unpunished and the American people uninformed as to the details of his death. You are in a position to bring about a dramatic change in that very unsatisfactory state of affairs. I hope you will do so voluntarily. Should you refuse to do so then I will advise Mr Garrison that it is my very strong opinion that a statement from me, referring in detail to our conversation, should be publicly released within the next 48 to 72 hours.

Mark Lane
tel. # 525-5481