FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 23, 1964

In February, 1964, Assistant Attorney General HERPERT J. MILLER, JR., received a form letter from JOACHIM JOESTEN which he referred to the FBI. In this letter Mr. JOESTEN stated that he had been sent to Dallas, Texas, by "Der Stern" of Hamburg, Germany, to conduct & thorough private investigation of the "many suspicious circumstances surrounding the assassination of President KENNEDY. On the strength of exhaustive, carefully documented findings, which convinced me that OSWALD was innocent and also provided me with valuable clues concerning the identity of the real assassins and their motives, I wrote a book of around 100,000 words... which is nearly completed..."

Mr. JOESTEN, who said in his letter that he was born at Cologne, Germany, in 1907, and became a naturalized American citizen in 1948, was interviewed at the American Consulate General in Hamburg, Germany, on March 21, 1964. He stated the following:

He arrived in Dallas on December 6 or 7, 1963, and stayed for four days. He concluded that LEE HARVEY OSWALD is innocent of the murder of President KENNEDY which can be readily seen by a review of published information. On the occasion of the President's visit to Dallas, Texas, there was only one published sketch of his intended route through Dallas and this appeared in the November 22, 1963, issue of "The Dallas Morning News" (DMN) in the lower left-hand corner of the front page.

OSWALD could not have known of the President's intended route because the paper did not appear until the morning of November 22, 1963, and according to testimony of Mrs. PAYNE, for OSWALD's landlady in Irving, Texas, OSWALD went to bed at 9:00 PM on the night of November 21, 1963. According to earlier newspaper accounts Mrs. PAYNE said, corroborated by a neighbor, Mr. FRAZIER, that OSWALD left his residence in Irving at 7:15 AM on November 22, 1963. In order to do this OSWALD would have had to have arisen about 6:30 AM. He, therefore, could not have seen "The Dallas Morning News" before he left Irving and, therefore, could not have gone prepared to shoot the President.

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by_	by Assistant Legat John C. F. Morris				dictated	3-23-64
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The most important factor is that the actual route which the President took differed from the published sketch. The sketch in the DMN showed that the President would travel straight down Main Street in Dallas to proceed under the "triple underpass." However, the President's car turned to the right on Houston from Main and then turned left on Elm Street which took the car past the book depository.

Mr. JOESTEN was told by an unidentified individual he met on the street near the book depository that traffic rules required that traffic move in the direction taken by the President if it was intended to turn right into Stemmons Freeway subsequently. JOESTEN tested this twice during a ride in a taxi and found this not to be true. OSWALD could not have known that the route would change even had he been aware of the intended route and it would have been impossible for him to have shot the President from the book depository had the President's car continued straight on Main Street. Mr. JOESTEN said he knows nothing of shooting and firearms but that he had observed what would have been the probable angle of fire and had noted that trees would have prevented accurate shooting.

When Governor CONNALLY was interviewed by newsman MARTIN AGRONSKY shortly after the shooting he said that when he heard the shots he turned to his left. However, the Governor was shot in his right side below the shoulderblade according to newspaper accounts and, therefore, the shot that hit him could not have come from behind.

At least two doctors at Parkland Hospital in Dallas stated that the President had been hit in the front of the neck just below his Adam's apple according to the DMN of Movember 23, 1963, and had been shot again in the back of his head. According to the DMN of November 23, 1963, "Doctors said (if CONNALLY had not turned) he would have taken his bullet in the heart..." This proves conclusively that the shots were fired from in front of the President's vehicle. Later published reports concerning the autopsy findings made by the medical team at Bethesda Naval Hospital are untrue and a part of the "cover-up" in this case. For this reason the autopsy report has never been made public.

Particularly significant is the fact that OSWALD had dever been legally charged with the murder of President KENNEDY but was only charged with the shooting of officer TIPPET. It is apparent that OSWALD was the victim of a deliberate frame-up by the Dallas Police. A story in the November 23, 1963 edition of the DMN headlined "President's Murder Charged to OSWALD" reported that "witnesses to the shooting (of officer TEPPET) described a bushy-haired man about 30...wearing a white cotton jacket..." OSWALD was 24 and looked younger. From photographs it is evident that he did not have bushy hair. Photographs also do not show him wearing a white cotton jacket and he could not have had time to put one on or to change from one. OSWALD's landlady in Dallas, Mrs. JOHNSON, told JOESTEN that when OSWALD left the house he was wearing a zipper jacket and as he went out he zipped it up. Mrs. JOHNSON made a zipping motion. She described the jacket as olive brown. A photograph in the November 23, 1963 DMN, section 1-5, pictures OSWALD in handcuffs in the jacket described by Mrs. JOHNSON. According to published reports OSWALD left the rooming house at 1:08 PM and officer TIPPET was killed at 1:15PM.

Mrs. HELEN MARKHAM is quoted in the DMN of November 23, 1963, as stating she was waiting for a bus and she had no trouble recalling what the killer of officer TIPPET looked like. "...I thought he was going to kill me too and you really look good at a time like that." The actions of the person who shot officer TIPPET, who certainly was not OSWALD, and the actions of officer TIPPET indicate that they knew each other. Newspapers reported that officer TIPPET stopped his patrol car and motioned for a pedestrian to come over to the car. The pedestrian said something to officer TIPPET. TIPPET got out of his car, walked around behind it and approached the man standing on the sidewalk. They exchanged some words. Then the man shot officer TIPPET. If this man had been OSWALD and he had just killed the President, he would not have stopped and talked to the patrolman unless they had known each other previously and this fact proves that this was the case.

The DMN of November 26, 1963, reported that "Police converged on the area and trailed the slayer to the 400 block of East Jefferson. They saw him dart between a service station and a drive-in grocery. (Officers) continued a zig-zag trail westward on Jefferson..." District Attorney WADE in a press conference on

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Sunday a few hours after OSWALD had been killed said "Yes he was on foot and apparently headed for the Texas Theater. He then walked across a vacant lot. Witnesses saw him eject the shells from a revolver and place--reload--the gun. Someone saw him go to the Texas Theater. A search was made of that later by a number of police officers."

This is obviously inconsistent because if police saw the killer dart between a service station and a drive-in grocery then the statement of Mr. WADE is untrue that he walked across a vacant lot and was seen to reload his gun. The earlier account is the true one.

Police spokesmen said that OSWALD probably had hoped to go to Mexico and then to Cuba after shooting the President and officer TIPPET. Officer TIPPET was killed on East Jefferson in Dallas just in the exact opposite direction from that which would be taken to leave Oak Cliff. The route westward out of Oak Cliff is a main thoroughfare connecting with a principal highway going to Fort Worth. There are no exits from Oak Cliff on East Jefferson. OSWALD had no reason to be on East Jefferson where officer TIPPET was killed and was not there.

When OSWALD left his Oak Cliff boarding house he was on the run because he did fear the police and had become more fearful after his encounter with a police officer in the book depository after the President was shot. OSWALD was actually on West Jefferson at the time officer TIPPET was killed going to see his mother in Fort Worth. Hearing the converging police cars arriving at the scene where officer TIPPET was killed he naturally panicked and took refuge in the Texas Theater not because he had killed the President or officer TIPPET but because of fears of the police for other reasons.

The "New York Times" published an interview with District Attorney WADE in which he said that TIPPET was killed a block or two from OSWALD's Oak Cliff boarding house. The distance is actually ten blocks. The reason Mr. WADE lied about this is because the time element is supremely important in the question of whether or not OSWALD could have been in a position to shoot officer TIPPET. TIPPET was shot at 1:15 PM.

From the previously described circumstances it is apparent that he must have hailed his assailant not later than 1:14 PM. From this alone it is apparent that OSWALD could not have been there because he could not have covered the ten blocks from his rooming house in six minutes. JOESTEN tried it several times and his fastest time was ten minutes and he is a bigger man than OSWALD with a longer stride and, therefore, could walk faster than OSWALD.

In addition, JOESTEN talked to Mrs. JOHNSON who told him that her housekeeper, Mrs.RCERTS, had seen OSWALD leave the house and had seen him at a bus stop leading to downtown Dallas. OSWALD had no reason to go to downtown Dallas which would have been swarming with police looking for the President's assassin in any event. Actually he was pondering going back to Irving to see his wife before going to Fort Worth to his mother. OSWALD was probably at the bus stop for one minute. This leaves him just five minutes to walk the ten blocks to where officer TIPPET was killed. The fact that OSWALD was fearful of the police and was going to Fort Worth to his mother makes it very logical for him to have been on West Jefferson but he was never on East Jefferson.

The "New York Times" quotes District Attorney WADE as saying that when approached in the Texas Theater OSWALD had tried to hold a gun against the head of patrolman MC DONALD. The gun was snapped but did not fire. Mr. WADE repeated this statement. The press quoted MC DONALD as saying he "... rammed his hand into the top of the man's trousers and grabbed the revolver." According to newspaper reports FBI firearms experts found the firing pin of the gun reportedly taken from OSWALD so bent that it could not strike the "cap of the bullet."

It, therefore, appears most probable that the pursuing officers who began the search after TIPPET was killed actually found the killer and killed him or otherwise disposed of him, took his gun and forced it into OSWALD's hand after they found him after bending the firing pin on the pistol. This was done to insure that OSWALD could not shoot someone after the gun was forced into his hand.

This, therefore, clearly shows (1) OSWALD is innocent, (2) the actions of the police and the statements of Mr. WADE show no innocent error, therefore, (3) there has to have been a conspiracy to assassinate the President, and make OSWALD the "fall guy", involving the Dallas police.

MARQUIS CHILDS, the well-known columnist, wrote on October 12, 1963 that President KENNEDY had confided to intimates that he intended to "crack-down" on HAROLDSON L. HUNT, a Texas oil millionaire and world famed J. PAUL GETTY by introducing new regulations to deprive them of income from their oil holdings by changing the oil depletion allowance rules. Further, both HUNT and GETTY had been avoiding payment of all of their income tax due and Mr. KENNEDY had said that HUNT and GETTY were using money they obtained from their oil interests to subsidize extreme right-wing propaganda. Senator PAUL DOUGLAS and Senator MAUREEN NEUBERGER have been investigating the tax avoiding schemes of HUNT and GETTY.

HUNT is the chief financier of the John Birch Society. Another prominent Dallas member is General EDWIN A. WALKER. General WALKER flew the American flag upside down the day President KENNEDY arrived in Dallas and flew it right-side up after he was assassinated. A man named BERNARD WEIZHAN according to published reports, placed a black-bordered advertisement in a Dallas newspaper "Talcoming" Mr. KENNEDY to Dallas. Although WEIZMAN was penniless he paid for this advertisement. V WEIZMAN told the "New York Times" that he had been a military policeman in Germany and had become a "conservative" there. WEIZMAN was in Germany at a time when WALKER was recruiting troops for the John Birch Society and they undoubtedly knew each other. The attorney for OSWALD's mother stated during the trial of JACK RUBY for the killing of OSWALD that he had proof of a mysterious meeting at RUBY's apartment shortly before the assacsination of the President and that WEIZMAN and officer TIPPET were present.

Following the cross-fire pattern of one of the attempted assassinations of General DeGAULLE, it is apparent that the assassination of the President was a military-type operation with firing from both front and rear and since General WALKER

is an experienced military man it is apparent that he organized the actual execution of the assassination plot. Since he knew WEIZMAN, and WEIZMAN is a former military policeman familiar with firearms, it is probable that WEIZMAN had something to do with the assassination.

Under the headline "Assassin Crouched and Took Deadly Aim" which appeared in section 4 of the DMN on November 23, 1963, it was reported that "...most (spectators at the assassination) ran to the west side of the building thinking the shots came from behind bushes and a fence dividing the street from a railroad yard..." There was a man shooting from the window from the book depository but it was not OSWALD.

After OSWALD, not even knowing what had occurred, became frightened by the policeman he encountered at the book depository, he walked to Griffin and Elm Street which is seven blocks from the book depository and got on a bus whose route would have taken him directly by the spot where the President was shot. OSWALD would never have done this if he had been the assassin.

OSWALD's reported defection to Russia was also "a cover-up". It should be obvious to any casual newspaper reader that OSWALD was sent to Russia by the CIA and that he bungled the job that he was sent to do. Mr. JOESTEN said he had no personal knowledge of this and no inside information but that it is easily evident to any thinking person.

After he returned to the United States he was penniless and was recruited by the FBI as an agent provacateur.

This is easily seen by the fact that he ran the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) in New Orleans against the advice of the FPCC showing that he was acting entirely alone. He was an undercover agent for the FBI in New Orleans and his alleged pro-Castro agitation was a cover intending to make him acceptable to Cuba. The FBI and the CIA decided to send OSWALD to Cuba to give him a second chance to make up for his failures in Russia. Of course, the Russians had already alerted the CASTRO Regime to the fact that OSWALD was an American agent.

The issuance of a passport to OSWALD on June 25, 1963, prior to his trip to Mexico is of paramount importance. After his so-called defection to Russia OSWALD's former Commanding Officer in the Marine Corps stated that they had had to change all of their coding systems because of possible compromise resulting from OSWALD's defection. OSWALD disowned his American passport and announced his intention to become a Russian citizen. He applied for a new passport on June 24, 1963, in New Orleans according to published reports and received it on June 25, 1963.

Although he did not need a passport to go to Mexico the passport was issued as a cover probably showing his destination as Europe so that the CIA could keep secret the fact that he was going to Mexico to get a visa to travel on their behalf to Cuba.

It is absolutely against the law, according to Mr. JOESTEN, to issue a passport to anyone who is a communist much less to a person who has disavowed his American citizenship and is an admitted defector to Russia. The speed and ease with which OSWALD was issued this passport shows obviously that it was done at the request of the CIA.

When OSWALD returned from Mexico, having been unsuccessful in getting a visa to Cuba, it is apparent to any newspaper reader that trouble developed between OSWALD and the CIA and the FDI because of his failures and probably because he had misappropriated money given to him or for other unknown reasons. When he returned to Dallas he went underground because of his fear of the CIA and the FBI and all American police agencies. This underground status to escape notice is proved by his having lived as O. H. LEE in the Oak Cliff rooming house. This fear is what made him take flight after the assassination of the President.

When the conspirators decided to assassinate President KEMNEDY they enlisted the aid of District Attorney WADE, Chief CURRY, and Sheriff DECKER because their jobs are dependent upon the good will of HUNT, GETTY and other "Texas oilmen." This complicity of the Dallas police explains the change in route of the President's car to bring him within the range of the

assassin's guns. It is particularly important that according to press reports Sheriff DECKER came on the air around 12:25 PM the day the President was shot and ordered all available men to the Elm Street underpass. ("The Daily Times Herald", November 22, 1963.) The President was not shot until 12:30. His motorcaid was five minutes behind schedule and he should have been at the underpass at 12:25. From this it is obvious that Sheriff DECKER was in on the conspiracy but from his office did not realize when he ordered his men to the area supposedly to apprehend the killer that the President had not yet arrived at the underpass and had not yet been shot.

Mr. JOESTEN said he has no access to results of hearings by the WARREN Commission but stated that Mrs. PAYNE should be asked the following questions:

- (1) Why did you, Mrs. PAYNE, not come forward immediately after OSWALD's arrest and say that you had found him the job in the book depository? (The answer is because that would have proved conclusively that OSWALD did not take a job there in order to be in a position to shoot the President.)
- (2) Why did you not say immediately that the highly publicized marked map of Dallas was given by you to OSWALD to assist him in finding the book depository and that the markings were merely to show him directions and had nothing to do with the President's assassination.

She has testified to this according to Mr. JOESTEN but the important thing is that she did not come forward immediately. The reason she did not is because OSWALD was sent to that job deliberately so that he could be planted there as a suspect.

Mr. JOESTEN stated that "Der Stern" has refused to publish his article. He said he does not know why.

4-572 (Rev. 7-18-63)

PROMAL FORM NO. 10

MAY 1943 SOUTHON

SEA SEM. NO. 17

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

To

The Director

DATE: 3 7 . 4 .

FROM

N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

ASSINATION (PROSIDENT JUIN F. A MINE DY

Pages 5537-5539. Senator Tower, (R) Texas, spoke concerning the reporting of the events in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy. He pointed out that "while we have gloryseckers and muckrakers among those who report the news and explain its meaning, we also have able and conscientious men and women who honestly want the truth to be known." Mr. Tower included an article entitled "Dallas Reaches the Awkward Age-Recent Events Blamed on Retention of Small-Town Easiness in Biz City," written by Eric Sevareid, and an article captioned "Did Press Pressure Kill Oswald' written by Larry Grove. Mr. Tower stated "I commend both articles to Senators, particularly those who have been prone to heap scorn on Dallas, and on Texas, because of the evil deed of an avowed, and itinerant, Marxist." Mr. Grove, in commenting on the events in Dallas, stated "Overlooked in most of the stories that developed the theme that Dallas is a mean, mean city were some pertinent facts: The Secret Service is directly charged with protection of the President. Dallas police gave more help than was asked for. The FBI was aware that Lee Harvey Oswald-defector, potential assassin, Marxist—was working in a building along the President's motorcade route. It had not notified the Dallas Police Department, nor the Secret Service. - - -What was the name of an FBI agent-James Hosty-doing in Oswald's notebook?

Had this evidence been bared at the time, perhaps some of the police department's detractors may have turned their fire on the FBI. Perhaps they would not have turned their fire at all. But would the Nation have been prepared, in that hour, to receive the news that the FBI had been aware of Oswald's whereabouts before President Kennedy stepped in his car for his fateful ride in the motorcade?" (Bureau records reflect that James P. Hosty, Jr., is an Agent assigned to the Dallas Office.)

AFC.

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In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for S-19-10 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed that the properties of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed that the properties of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed that the properties of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped.

INITED STATES GONNENT

Memorandum

: Mr. Monr TO

DATE: March 31, 1964

: W. S. Tavel

SUBJECT: ARTICLE IN "SIGNAL" MAGAZINE

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In the March issue of "Signal" magazine, published by the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, there appeared on page 27 System report pointing out the excellent work done by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) and the Ball Telephone Telegraph Company (AT&T) and the Ball Telephone Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) and the Ball Telephone Telephone and Telephone and Telephone Telephone and Telephone Telep Telegraph Company (AT&T) and the Bell Telephone System people in Dallas, Texas, in furnishing immediate emergency telephone service after the assassination of former President John F. Kennedy. In reading this article, I noted that a statement was made to the effect that ".... switchboards were pulled out of stock--one was rushed to Parkland (Hospital), another to a Dallas hotel for the FBI to use"

I contacted SAC Shanklin at Dallas and Inspector James R. Malley of the General Investigative Division, who was in Dallas after the assassination, to determine if such a switchboard had been ordered by our Dallas Office. Both Inspector Malley and SAC Shanklin stated that they knew nothing of such a switchboard; had not ordered any such switchboard but that the telephone company had in fact furnished superb service; had contacted our Dallas Office and offered to install any additional equipment necessary; and had, in effect, furnished an open line immediately to Washington on their own initiative. Inspector Malley commented that several people had remarked at the fact that calls to and from the Dallas Office went through without any delay and were handled with remarkable speed.

I discussed this with our telephone contact at AT&T, Mr. Randy Joachim, and pointed out to him that although the Bureau appreciated deeply the excellent service which we received after the assassination, that I did not feel that the Bureau wanted any such service publicized and that I would appreciate it in the future if any statements about service furnished to the FBI were cleared with us before being published. Joachim stated that he was checking but did not know as yet whether such a switchboard as was mentioned was actually installed.

1-Mr. DeLoach 1-Mr. Malley

1-Mr. Wherry

WST:jmr (5)

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Coming. Still.

Memorandum to Mr. Mohr from W. S. Tavel Re: Article in "Signal" Magazine Mentioning FBI Communications

I also received a call on 3-30-64 from Mr. Ben Givens, Assistant Vice President of AT&T, apologizing for the fact that this statement was published without checking with the Bureau first. He stated that he has issued instructions on a nationwide basis that associated companies are not to make any statements for publication regarding any service furnished the FBI without securing the Bureau's permission first.

ACTION:

Submitted for information.

3/3/

Mr. Belmont.

- Mr. Rosen

Sullivan

- Mr. Malley

Mr. Rogge

March 31, 1964

By Courier Service

Honorable J. Lee Rankin General Counsel The President's Commission 200 Maryland Avenue, Northeast Washington, D. C.

.. Dear Mr. Rankin:

By letter dated March 27, 1964, you were advised of the results of the Laboratory examinations of three bullets from Officer J. D. Tippit's body, C251, C252 and C253. This letter also made reference to the first bullet received, Cl3, as having been removed from Tippit's body.

The Laboratory examinations on these items showed that three of the bullets were Winchester-Western type copper-coated bullets and One was a Remington-Peters type lead bullet. The Qallas Police Department recovered four .38 Special cartridge cases in connection with the shooting of Officer Tippit. Two of these .38 Special cartridge cases are of Western manufacture and two are of Remington-Peters-hanufacture The fact that three Winchester-Western bullets were recovered and only & two Western cartridge cases were recovered was called to Mr. Melvin Eisenberg's attention. On March 30, 1964, Mr. Eisesberg requested that the Dallas Police Department be contacted to determine whether any additional cartridge cases had been recovered.

On March 30, 1964, Lieutenant Carl Day, Dallas Police Department, mayaged the Dallas Office of this Bureau that all of the cartridge cases and bullets recovered had been previously submitted to the PBI. These are the ones that have previously been turned over the Camputation by this Bureau.

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- COMM. ERI Delgee

105-82555 Based on memorandum Jevons to Conrad dared 3/30/64. Mr. R. H. Jevons, of the Laboratory, telephonically requested Dallas Office to contact the Dallas Police Department to resolve The results of their contact with discussed above.

HB Day were furnished on March 30, 1964, telephonically.

UNITED STATES GC Memorandum 3/30/64 DATE: TO Jevons!/ FROM PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, SUBJECT: 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS As a matter of record, on 3/30/64, Mr. Melvin Eisenberg, a member of the President's Commission, had item Cl5, Oswald's revolver, returned to the Laboratory. The delivery of this item to the Commission was appropriately confirmed by letter to Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel of The President's Commission. Mr. Eisenberg, during a pretestimony conference with SA Cortlandt, Cunningham on 3/30/64, stated that he would like the FBI Laboratory to conduct paraffin tests using diphenylbenzidine with the Cl4 assassination rifle prior to SA Robert A. Frazier's testimony on 3/31/64. He was advised that these tests would be conducted. Prior tests of this nature were conducted in the Laboratory using the technique of neutron activation (memorandum 3/17/64, Jevons to Conrad). Mr. Eisenberg requested the above test as a matter of record since there had been considerable publicity in ', ', regard to this matter. Mr. Bisenberg also asked Mr. Cunningham to have the Dallas Difice of the FBI contact the Dallas Police Department in an effort to locate any additional cartridge cases found by the Dallas Police Department during the investigation of Officer J. D. Tippit's murder. It is pointed out that the Laboratory has received four bullets alleged to have been removed from the Z body of Officer Tippit. Three of these bullets were manufactured by Winchester-Western and one of the bullets was manufactured by Remington-Peters. The four cartridge cases found near the scene of the shooting by the Dallas Police Department were found to consist of two Remington-Peters and two Western cartridge cases. Therefore, a Remington-Peters bullet and Q a Western cartridge case were apparently not recovered. Inclosure 1 - Mr. Belmont 1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Sullivan 1 - Mr. Malley 62-109060

Memorandum to Mr. Conrad Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, 11/22/63, DALLAS, TEXAS 62-109060

FBI Dallas has telephonically advised that
Lieutenant Carl Day of the Dallas Police Department stated
today that all cartridge cases recovered by the Police
Department have been turned over to the Bureau. These, of
course, are the ones described above. This information is being
furnished the Commission by letter. Lieutenant Day also advised
that it is very possible that a bullet or casing to Oswald's
revolver was not found as such cartridge cases recovered were
found by individuals in the area and turned over to the Dallas
Police Department.

It is to be noted that the Tippit murder case is strictly a local one under the jurisdiction of the Dallas Police Department.

ACTION: None, for information.

A D

3010-100 UNITED STATES GUERNMENT Memorandum MR. TROTTER 1.3. 3-23-64 DATE: FROM: C. B. Voelker UN _PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ISSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT Mr. Milton Eisingberg of the Presidential Commission Staff visited the Identification Division 3-23-64. The writer and the Supervisor of the Latent Fingerprint Section. Mr. Sebastian F. Latona, reviewed with him the latent fingerprint work in this case. Mr. Eisingberg indicated that testimony would be required before the Commission on April 1st or 2nd and he would like charts of the two latent impressions found on the paper wrapper: charts of the lift of the one latent from the gun barrel and charts of the three latent impressions from the cardboard cartons. He would like these charts to be completed by Friday, March 27, 1964, so that he might review them in detail with Mr. Latona who made the original examinations. Mr. Eisingberg further explained that the Commission had decided that " I in matters involving expert testimony two independent experts would be asked for their opinion. In this case the Commission has selected the New York City Police Department as the second expert agency to testify in latent fingerprint matters. He inquired what arrangements could be made to have the material furnished the New York City Police Department. Mr. Eisingberg was advised that since this additional testimony should be completely independent the best means would be to furnish photographs of the latent impressions and known fingerprint and palm prints of Oswald for transmittal to which ever department he intended to contact concerning their views. Mr. Eisingberg agreed that this arrangement would be satisfactory. RECOMMENDATIONS: 1. That we proceed with preparing requested charts and make 🗒 🗧 available Mr. Latona for testimony at the Commission's request. ST. REC-24. (continued) 27.92 1 - Mr. Rosen 1 - Mr. Sullivan 1 - Mr., Conrad

MEMORANDUM TO MR. TROTTER
RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

2. If the Director approves, photographic copies of the latent impressions and known impressions of Oswald will be furnished Mr. Eisingberg for transmittal to which ever police department the Commission has chosen.

Ministra Marian Marian

Airtel and teletype communications reflecting results of WFO investigation submitted subsequent to receipt of Butel to All SACs, 11/29/63, have included names of investigative employees conducting inquiry, thereby enabling Dallas to prepare FD-302s and inserts, when deemed appropriate. This procedure in accordance, With instructions in aforementioned Butel. WFO file reflects considerable investigation, including miscellaneous information having no apparent direct bearing this matter, submitted in report of SA CARL E. GRAHAM, dated 12/2/63, at WFO under caption LEE HARVEY OSWALD, IS-R, (00:DL). .WFO considers information previously submitted in accordance with instructions Butel referred to above. 3. or in report of SA GRAHAM, dated 12/2/63, need not be re-submitted Dallas on basis of reairtel, Junless advised to contrary by Bureau or 00

UNITED STATES GOVERNI Memorandum it. Conrad DATE: 3/27/64 W. D. Griffith REQUEST OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ir. Helvin Hisenberg of The President's Commission called SA Shancyfelt today and inquired about the appreximate time between the first and third shots as obtained from Laboratory examination of the motion picture film and as a result of reviews made of the film by members of the Commission and representatives of the FBI and Secret Service. SA Shancyfelt advised Mr. Eisenberg that the initial Laboratory report stated that the elapsed time between the first and third shots was approximately 5 to 6 seconds. Hr. Lisenberg stated that SA Frazier of the FBI Laboratory was making some studies for him and needed an approximate time figure to use in these studies. He asked that SA Shaneyfelt have SA Frazier use 5.555 seconds in any calculations he makes regarding the elapsed time between the first and third shots. Mr. Lisenberg realizes there is a 1/2 second lecway on each side of this figure. 1,2-100010 SA Frazier was given this information. RECOMMENDATION: For information only. - Mr. Delmont - Mr. Rosen (iir. Halley) - Mr. Sullivan (Mr. Lenihan) REC- 20 10 APR 2 1954

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62-109060-2791

Rewrlet dated 3-10-64.

Legat, Rome is instructed to prepare twenty-five copies in insert form the results of your interview with Vadali relating to the assassination of President Kennedy. Summarize background data and include circumstances of how this matter was brought to your attention. Submit this information promptly so that it can be furnished to Dallas for inclusion in report.

In addition, prepare an additional letterhead memorandum concerning Vidali, which can be disseminated to Internal Revenue noting in your letter of March 10, 1064, the allegation of how Vidali bragged that he never paid income taxes, and that he had trafficked heavily in gold between the United States and Mexico.

For the information of Dallas, in connection with an impersonation case concerning the subject, which was handled by Legat, Rome, allegations were made that Vidali might have some information concerning the assassination. Legat, Rome interviewed Vidali on 3-10-64 and he stated he had absolutely no information concerning persons possibly connected with the assassination.

1 - Dallas (89-43) (Enc.) BUPLICATE YELLOW:

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In connection with an impersonation case regarding Vidali, allegations were furnished to Legat, Rome, that Vidali might have some information concerning the assassination.

Legat, Rome, interviewed Valuation 8-20-64 at which time he stated he had absolutely no information concerning persons possibly connected with the assassination or individuals who to his knowledge are evenr remotely associated with the incident.

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Circe Memorandum • united states government

Director, FBI

DATE: March 10, 185.

Legat, Rome

(47-19)(RUC)

SUBJECT:

ALDO VIDALI IMPERSONATION

ReRomecab, 2-4-64, and Bulet, 2-5-64, which furnished to the Rome office a copy of subject's identification record.

On February 10, 1964, Mr. ALBERTO COCCIA, Via Ronciglione 15-B, Rome, referred to in reRomecab, ad-, ! vised that he had heard that the subject might have some information concerning matters touching upon the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Upon receipt of this information from Mr. COCCIA. this office promptly requested the to attempt to locate VIDALI and interview him thoroughly for any information he might have concerning the assassination.

On March 9, 1964, the advised that they had located the subject and suggested that. since the matter dealt with the assassination of President Kennedy, representatives of this office, rather 16 interview VIDALI. than

On March 10, 1964, VIDALI appeared at the Office of the Legal Attache in response to a request from this office and he was interviewed thoroughly for any information he might have touching upon the assassination.

VIDALI stated that he has absolutely no information concerning persons possibly connected with the assassination or individuals who to his knowledge are even remotely associated with the incident. VIDALI stated that, like most Americans, he was deeply shocked

5 - Bureau (1 - Liaison Section)

(1 - Liaison Section), NOT RECORDED (1 - Denver Information NOT RECORDED (1 - Los Angeles Info) 199 APR 1-1901

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by the death of the President, but, also like many Americans, he is not convinced in his own mind that the President's death was due merely to the undirected and uncoordinated act of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. He stated that in his conversations with Italian citizens and American citizens in Rome he has on several occasions expressed the thought that there may well be ramifications touching upon the assassination which have not yet toen made public. He has never, however, according to VIDALI, indicated in his conversations who he thinks might be involved in the assassination other than OSWALD, nor has he attempted to identify any groups or political entities which might have been involved in any possible plot connected with the assassination. VIDAL: stated that he knows of no one, either in America or anywhere else in the world, who might have pertinent information concerning the actual facts surrounding the assassination. He stated that should he by any means come to possession of such information he would promptly report it to this office.

The following background information on VIDALI was furnished by the statement on March 9, 1964:

VIDALI was born of an unknown father and EMILIA VIDALI at Brussels, Selgium, on February 12, 1930. He is single and his residence was shown as 9426 Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills, California. VIDALI was carried on the rolls of the Ufficio dello Stato Civile (Bureau of Statistics) of Rome, 1931 to 1951, at which time he was removed from the rolls because his location was not known.

VIDALI, coming from the United States, arrived in Italy on August 17, 1962, by air bearing U. S. Passport No. 2044064, issued at Washington, D. C., April 27, 1960. At that time he lodged at Via Giacinto Pezzana 108, Rome. He subsequently left Italy for the United States, returning to Italy on February 21, 1963, again taking lodging at the last mentioned address. On March 7, 1964, coming from Switzerland, VIDALI re-entered Italy. He presently resides at Via Antonio Bertoloni 23, the address at which is located the firm "Autori Associati"

(Associated Authors), which deals in movie films and of which VIDALI is an adviser and stockholder. Among the other stockholders of this firm is one ALDO SALERNO, who was born at Rome, Italy, on February 3, 1901. SALERNO is described as an ex-adviser of the Partito Nazionale Monarchico (National Monarchist Party), who has for some time been retired from the political scene. During the time VIDALI has been in Italy he has not been known to have engaged in any suspect activity.

During the interview with VIDALI on March 10, 1964, the following additional background information was obtained:

In about 1950-51 VIDALI was attending the Colorado School of Mines at Golden, Colorado. While there VIDALI met one MARTIN ALBERT, whom VIDALI described as an out-and-out communist. ALBERT attempted to recruit VIDALI for communist activity. VIDALI claims to have reported these contacts with ALBERT to the FBI in Denver and, in addition, claims to have attended CP meetings in Denver upon which he also reported to the FBI. VIDALI stated that ALBERT was a food salesman who used his wide contacts in his sales business to propagandize for the Communist Party among Negro groups.

VIDALI stated that he was again contacted by the FBI at a time when he was residing in Laguna Beach, California, sometime in the mid-1950s. VIDALI stated that at that time he was making extensive trips to Mexico from the United States in connection with mining adventures and he suspects that someone may have reported him to the FBI because of his repeated trips to Mexico. VIDALI claims that at that time he was interviewed by Bureau agents for possible leftist tendencies.

VIDALI exhibited his Selective Service registration card which reflects that he has Selective Service No. 4-134-30-590, issued by Local Board No. 134, 209 Church Street, Santa Ana, California, on September 26,

1956. VIDALI at the time was residing at 175 Dumont Drive, Laguna Beach, Orange, California. He was class-1fied 5-A on November 9, 1956.

VIDALI stated that he was naturalized as a U. S. citizen in the U. S. District Court in Denver, Colorado, in October, 1958.

He was formerly married to JANET CALCAGNO, who was originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and who is now remarried and residing at 144 Carr Drive, Glendale, California.

VIDALI furnished the following summary of residences and travel:

1930-34 Brussels, Belgium

1934-47 Italy

Residing with his mother, EMILIA VIDALI, at Sao Paolo, Brazil. He described his mother as an opera singer who continues to reside at Sao Paolo.

1949 to date - has resided most of the time in the United States, with brief trips to Mexico in connection with surveys for the possible purchase of mines

VIDALI explained that in the recent past he has been associated with a Texas corporation known as Tex-Italia in Austin, Texas. The aims of this corporation are to produce and disseminate motion pictures in the United States and Italy. He stated that to date the corporation has had very little success and has had considerable difficulty in locating financial backing. VIDALI stated that the following individuals are also associated with Tex-Italia:

CHARLES LASATER, President of the corporation,
Austin, Texas;

JACK FUNDERBURGH, a builder in Austin;

CLINT STEPHENS, a promoter who allegedly has

contacts with potential money

lenders in all parts of the U.S.;

KEN MORGAN, Big Springs, Texas

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VIDALI advised that he was an illegitimate child, having been born out of wedlock to ALDO SALERNO, an Italian citizen, and EMILIA VIDALI.

Ome information copy of instant communication is designated for Denver and Los Angeles in view of subject's activities described above connected with areas covered by those offices. For the further information of the Denver and Los Angeles offices, it is to be noted that on February 4, 1964, Mr. ALBERTO COCCIA, mentioned above, advised that VIDALI had claimed to have worked for the FBI at sometime in the past and was threatening to physically harm and possibly kill COCCIA's daughter because she refused marriage with VIDALI. COCCIA stated that the subject had bragged that he had never paid U. S. income tax and that he had trafficked heavily in gold between the United States and Mexico, claiming to have gold ingots buried in Durango, Mexico. By letter dated February 5, 1964. the Bureau advised that the subject was not wanted according to Identification Division files and that there was no record in Bureau fugitive indices on the subject.

Inasmuch as VIDALI apparently has no pertinent information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy and since he is not wanted by the Bureau, this office is taking no further action in this matter at this time UACB.